

PET OF THE WEEK

Meet Kevin

Page 2



CLASSROOM

Mock stock market

Page 6



SPORTS

Game tradition on Thanksgiving

Page 7

SERVING PALMER, MONSON, BRIMFIELD, HOLLAND & WALES

The Journal Register

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

November 18, 2021 | Vol. CLXX, No. 42 | \$1.00

www.journalregister.turley.com

GOVERNMENT

Task force targeting ‘problem’ properties in town

By Nicole Acevedo
Correspondent

PALMER — Strong, safe, and successful neighborhoods are vital to creating a high quality lifestyle in a town or city, officials say.

One distressed property in a community full of well-maintained homes can significantly depreciate the safety and property values of the neighborhood, which is why Palmer Town Manager Ryan McNutt says he has worked diligently over the past three years to create Neighborhood Improvement through Code Enforcement, an initiative that fights blighted properties in town.

McNutt created his first N.I.C.E. committee well over 10 years ago in Fitchburg, where he was in town government at the time.

“I worked in the city of Fitchburg for the mayor, and then I went off and became a town administrator. (After that) I became a city manager up in New Hampshire, where I also instituted a N.I.C.E. committee, but I always planned to come back to Massachusetts,” said McNutt.

According to an ordinance proposed by Palmer Town Council on Dec. 9, 2019, the purpose and intent of the ordinance was to “eliminate nuisances affecting buildings and real property in the Town. Nuisances, such as dilapidated buildings, buildings or real estate covered with graffiti, buildings open to the weather or vagrants, real estate with overgrowth of vegetation, debris, trash, and stagnant pools of water, and vacant or abandoned buildings, cause and contribute to blight within neighborhoods and commercial areas of the Town and may adversely affect the property values for adjacent and surrounding property.”

Chaired by McNutt, the task force also includes the Board of Health, the chief of police and chief of the fire department, the building inspector, and the director of the Department of Public Works. While the committee is determined to eliminate as many public health and safety nuisances as possible, their efforts were put on hold during the pandemic.

“We got slowed down because of COVID,” said McNutt.

“It prevented our ability to meet face-to-face for a little while. The N.I.C.E. task force is made up of fire chiefs and Board of Health directors, and all of those people got really busy doing other COVID related things. So, this kind of fell by the wayside in terms of priority, but now that we’re able to meet again — especially with all the real estate interest, and the houses turning over — it’s a good time to get back out there.”

Right now, the committee is diving head first into finding which properties in the Palmer community need to be prioritized and addressed. By driving through town, McNutt and his team make note of which homes appear blighted, and prepare for the next steps.

“We have to look at which is easiest to go after,” said McNutt.

“This is America, and 99 percent of it is private property. So, we have to look at who hasn’t paid their taxes because if they haven’t paid their taxes, then the town can usually petition to take it. But if their taxes are paid, then we have to find out if the owners live in town.”

More often than not, most

PROPERTY | page 3



SALUTING VETERANS



Veterans organizations, the Palmer High Marching Band, local Scouts, and first responders marched in the town’s Veterans Day parade.

Town revives ceremony to honor those who served

By Michael Harrison
mharrison@turley.com

BONDSVILLE — It’s been 103 years since the signing of the armistice that ended the First World War, then known as the “War to End All Wars,” a title hopefully adopted from a book title of the era.

The commemoration of the “11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month” was initially honored as “Armistice Day” and has since become what we observe as Veterans Day. And after a year’s interlude because of the COVID-19 pandemic, Palmer officials and residents once again marked the occasion with a parade and a brief ceremony that opened with a reading of a proclamation from



Post 130 Commander Matthew Nay.

Gov. Baker said in part, “And whereas there are approximately 388,000 veterans living in Massachusetts, and today, we are reminded of the great sacrifices and contributions our veterans have

made to our country. And we honor this and salute those who served our country throughout the generations with honor, patriotism and courage. And it is appropriate that all Massachusetts citizens remember the bravery of those who have served their country.”

Palmer Veterans Agent Troy Brin said in his opening remarks, “It’s my privilege to be involved in ways to thank all of our veterans for their sacrifice as well as their families. This is a day not only to honor them and their families, but to remember the sacrifice that they made not only for our country, our freedoms, but for our local unit as well. I’d like to thank again, everyone here for com-

VETERANS | page 12

COMMUNITY

Palmer Food Share drive on to combat hunger locally

By Jonah Snowden
jsnowden@turley.com

PALMER — Anyone who needs food assistance for Thanksgiving — or any other time — can find it at Palmer Food Share Inc.

The food bank is hosting a food drive on Nov. 20 in partnership with sponsors Country Bank, Beach Bound Nutrition, Kevin Fall of Servpro of Hampshire County, Kubala Windows and The Valley’s Classic Hits 97.7 FM and 1250 AM Radio. The food drive will take place from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Palmer Food Share’s parking lot at 3 Converse Street in Palmer. In addition to non-perishable food, personal hygiene products, paper products, and other essentials will be collected.

Director of the Palmer Food Share Inc. Catherine Plouffe said



Palmer Food Share Inc.’s Nov. 20 food drive is on to assist local families in need.

she is grateful for every business sponsoring the upcoming food drive.

“We’re so grateful that our community supports the Palmer Food Share and goes out of there to get donations, whether it be money, food, or personal care items,” Plouffe said.

“They are always there to pick us up and support us, along with the volunteers that work here. If families need a helping hand, we’re there to provide for them and help them with no questions asked. We just need proof of residency and we’re more than happy to lend a helping hand.”

The food share is located at 39 Walnut Street. The food share provides meat, pasta, bread, water, canned goods, snacks, personal care products and serves residents of Palmer, Brimfield and Warren. For more information on what the food share needs now, call 413-281-3614.

EDUCATION

School Committee debates changes to grading, credits

By Kayleigh Thomas
Correspondent

PALMER —A School Committee meeting scheduled for Nov. 17 was cancelled. One of the items on the agenda was going to be continued discussion on a new student guardian handbook, including a change in high school grading and credit requirements.

Each year, the handbook is provided for parents as a guide to the policies, procedures, and expectations of the district. The Academic Council proposed changes to the handbook at a recent Palmer School Committee meeting, including graduation requirements that match the Program of Studies previously approved by the school committee.

However, for the plan to be in accordance with the MassCore graduation requirements, the math program has to increase to three to four credits. Social studies would decrease from four credits to three. In other proposed changes, the marking system on page 62 in the current student guardian handbook would change the scoring of 65 to 60 to 69. This scoring would count for the letter grade D. For the letter grade F, the score would turn from 64 and below into 59 and below.

Previous research from the academic council had been done for those who fell between 60 and 64. In the 2020-’21 school year, there were 13 students who failed a course and were unable to get a credit.

The credits are to match the program studies on page 64 on the current handbook. The start of a student’s sophomore would require obtaining six credits during freshmen year, as opposed to five now. To enter junior year, students would need 12 credits instead of 13 and senior year 20 credits rather than 21. In total, a student would have to achieve 28 credits to graduate.

Palmer High Principal and academic council member Susan North said, “we are looking at the passing to be a sixty or higher. So we were looking at the impact. This is what the impact looked like. So that means that those students may have not qualified for sports, they may have fallen short for eligibility. It also impacts when students move into our district and the guidance department looks at a transcript review. And if a student comes from another district with a 63 that is not passing in our district. That will determine where you place them as a junior or a senior.”

Vice-Chairperson Sandra Noonan said she wasn’t in favor of changing the marking system due

SCHOOL | page 3

HOLIDAYS

Early submission deadline

The deadline for submissions you would like to appear in the Nov. 25 edition of the Journal Register is 5 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 19. Submissions and questions should be sent by email to mharrison@turley.com. Please send submissions as Word docs or plain email text. Photos should be attached as a .jpg. There is no guarantee that submissions sent other than by email will appear in that edition. We thank you for your cooperation!

Demore’s pitching in again this Thanksgiving

By Jonah Snowden
jsnowden@turley.com

PALMER — Once again, Demore’s Automotive is planning to support the community and ensure everyone is taken care of during the holiday season.

Co-owner of Demore’s Automotive Jay Demore said the auto repair shop is collaborating with the Palmer Food Share Inc., the Palmer Senior Center, and Second Congregational Church to ensure over 150 meals are made and distributed to residents in need this Thanksgiving.

“The only donation that we’re asking for right now, which we need, is for the Palmer Food Share,” Demore said.

“If people want to donate and drop non-perishables out here, they can certainly do that.”

Demore will also be receiving assistance from Palmer High School student Aiden Szenda and other members of the Interact Club who will be putting together a personalized card for each senior citizen.

“His mother bought a bunch of cards and they’re going to be handwriting inside each one,”

Demore said.

“I was just reaching out to him just to help distribute meals out to the senior citizens, but it doesn’t get more heartfelt than this.”

Demore said he and other members of the auto repair shop feel blessed to have this opportunity to provide for the residents in Palmer who are in need and want to provide as much assistance as possible. He also said he is appreciative of Russo’s Lakeside Seafood and Steakhouse, which will be collaborating with the auto repair shop yet again.

“They are taking time out of their day to prepare these 150 meals,” Demore said. “We are paying for all meals, but they’re coming in extra early to take care of all of this and get it ready for us.”

After all the meals are prepared, Demore’s Automotive will drop them off throughout the Palmer area. The auto repair shop is accepting nonperishable goods and personal care products at their location, 1160 Park St., before and after the Thanksgiving holiday.

The Journal Register OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$100, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

SCHOOL | from page 1

to other area schools, such as Pathfinder, Belchertown, Ludlow, and Ware, being at a 65 for their passing grade.

Chairperson Bonny Rathbone agreed with Noonan. "At the high school level, freshman through senior year, first semester they have four classes and four classes the second semester," she said.

"I'm sorry, if a student can not achieve a 65 or above for four classes a day, that's not really asking much of the student especially with all the interventionists we have. We have teachers, guidance counselors, school psychologists and the list goes on and on. We are preparing the students for the real world. I feel we should not be enabling students, I feel that we have standards that are vigorous."

Joseph Nompleggi had disagreed.

"We are not talking about enabling every failing student from a 0 to 65," he said.

"We are talking about a four-point swing. I agree that everyone getting a trophy type mindset is not the way to go. But that's not what is happening; It is simplifying a system so that it is aligned with the other letter grades in the system. So that when students come from other districts that transition is a lot smoother. I'm not advocating we allow students that are failing miserably to graduate and be successful, but a 60 is good enough to allow them to pass," he said.

Rathbone added, "if a child has a 63 average, believe me, if that is going to impact their graduation, there isn't a teacher or administrator who isn't going to give a 99.99-percent effort to give that kid those points."

"Even in middle school you always got that kid too, you give extra credit, anything to bring that grade up," Nolan said.

"So those students that you really work hard with and they couldn't bring their grade up – did they turn their lives around because they didn't get their diploma?" Nompleggi said.

"Whereas getting the diploma might be."

School committee member Anthony Braden said, "you shouldn't enable people, but at the same time is the four points a real deal breaker? I don't see it as a huge deal but I do for the student that is about to graduate."

According to North, "We still have students that really struggle for one real reason or another. With the actual pandemic and what their home lives are. Just 4 points is a huge impact."

The committee approved the changes to the student guardian handbook, minus the Palmer High marking system.

The new Palmer high school marking system was supposed to voted on at the school committee meeting scheduled Nov. 17 that was cancelled. It's not clear if the item will be on the agenda for the next meeting, scheduled for Dec. 15.

PROPERTY

| from page 1

blighted properties are owned by absentee owners who have no idea what their property looks like or how it's affecting the town, according to McNutt.

"We start with (absentee owners) first because it's their responsibility to fix or make their own property safe," he said.

Property owners who do not comply with the town's ordinances and standards of safety following notice of violation will face penalties. Landlords and owners will receive a written notice stating that their property is in violation of property regulations, and will have 10 days to remove or abate the nuisance. If there is a failure to rectify a violation in the allotted time, it will result in the town doing the work itself at the expense of the owner.

Moving forward, N.I.C.E. remains eager to maintain the welfare and beauty of Palmer properties.

McNutt said the committee welcomes input from residents, especially calling attention to blighted properties the town might not be aware of. To report problem properties in Palmer, please contact Palmer Board of Health at 413-283-2606.

Two days, two buildings: St. Christopher's Craft Fair returns

*Come to shop, stay
for breakfast and
lunch*

BRIMFIELD — The annual Christmas Craft Fair at St. Christopher's Parish on Route 20 in Brimfield is excited to be able to return this year on Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 20-21.

This year, the fair will be held in two buildings. Saturday hours are 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and it's 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday.

With a wide array of unique, hand-crafted items created by local artisans and crafters, the fair is a great opportunity to find unique gifts for everyone on your

gift list, yourself, or your home and even your pets. Everything from hand carved wooden toys and art, one of a kind jewelry, soaps, soy candles, Christmas ornaments, hand painted art, tie dye, soaps, quilted runners and hangers, knitted and crochet hats, scarves and blankets, pebble art, pet beds, clothing, and so much more.

The kitchen is open throughout the day serving delicious food with breakfast on Saturday and lunch on both days that includes soups, sandwiches, and desserts. There will be raffles with donations from the crafters and local businesses and includes items such as Worcester Red Sox and Railers tickets, gift baskets,

restaurant gift cards, and a lottery tree. The woman's club will also have their white elephant tables for some great deals. A strolling caroler will help bring the Christmas spirit.

Club President Cindy Skowrya said, "after a year off because of covid we are really happy to be able to bring this community event back. Not only is it a great community event but it also gives an avenue for the artisans and crafters who put their heart and soul into their work to get some returns. It also remains an important fundraiser for the parish to help defray the cost of maintaining three buildings but also upkeep of the recently renovated historic Windmill that once pro-

vided indoor plumbing and is a recognized symbol in the town of Brimfield."

As successful as the fair has been, the club always tries to up its game.

"Each year we try to make this a great community event," Skowrya said.

"We have many returning crafters and a variety of new ones mixing up our offerings. We also commit funds to parish needs. This year funds will go towards painting our rectory building."

The effort is not taken for granted.

"The women's club works hard to make a positive impact in the parish", said Father Brennan.

"They are making a differ-

ence and both I and the parish appreciate their efforts. We are grateful that our doors are once again open so stop in and see us not just at the fair, but anytime, all are welcome."

Skowrya also said that due to the COVID pandemic and to make people feel comfortable, they accepted fewer crafters to provide more space between areas and also make the café area larger.

Admission to the craft fair is free. For more information call the parish at 413-245-7274 or check out the church's Facebook page.

HOLLAND COMMUNITY CENTER

All new programs, events for November

HOLLAND — From Veterans Appreciation Day to crafts, quilting and fitness classes, the Holland Community Center at 40 Brimfield Road offers fun, educational, and life-enriching activities for all ages.

If you're not familiar with the Friends group, be sure to attend the meeting on Nov. 16 (details below).

There are nutritious, homemade meals as well. Here's a look at what's going on this month:

Special November Events

Nov. 22 Fuel Assistance Sign up All Day
Nov. 25 CLOSED

Hungry?

You can dine-in or take out meals on Mondays and Wednesdays. Take out Pick up is 11:45 a.m.-noon. Dine-in is at noon. A \$3 donation RSVP required. Due to a wonderful donation from the Holland Council on Aging, any Holland senior resident will be able to get their lunch for a \$3 suggested donation. *

For a \$5 suggested donation you will get the entrée, a side and dessert. All ages are welcome to order.

November's Menu

Nov. 22: Bedder Cheddar Sausage Subs
Nov. 24: Mild Chili w/ Cornbread
Nov. 29: French Onion Soup Smothered Pork Chops

*Please have exact change if possible.

Program highlights

CRAFTER'S SOCIAL & QUILTING: Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m.- Bring your favorite project and visit with other crafters each week.

DOMINOES: Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. - Join us every Tuesday for dominoes. We use colored, numbered pieces instead of dots, which helps if you have

less than perfect eyesight. The game is pretty simple and lots of fun. Everyone is invited and it's FREE.

MIX IT UP WITH DEBBIE: Wednesdays at 10 a.m. The class consists of core and body conditioning. Includes cardio, strength training, and stretching. Plus its lots of fun. Bring yoga mat and flat fitness band if you have it. RSVP is required. \$5 per person (\$3 for seniors).

YOGA: Wednesdays at 5 p.m. - Take time out for you. The holidays are coming and self-care is very important. Come to the Center for an hour of relaxation and self-care.

BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO MEDICINAL HERBS: Monday, Nov. 29 at 12:45 p.m. Are you a little nervous about trying medicinal herbs? Would you like to increase your knowledge about using the spices and herbs, commonly found in your kitchen? Take this opportunity to learn about some herbal home remedies. What can you find in the supermarket that may aid in keeping you healthy? Learn some of the vocabulary associated with the use of herbs: tea, salve, oils, syrup, tincture, essential oil, cordial.

Have fun and take information home today that you can use tomorrow!

FOR SALE USED FURNITURE

3 Bamboo Chairs w/ fabric cushion
1 Matching Ottoman/same fabric
Several different wall pictures
3 outdoor resin wicker chairs w/cushions
Large outdoor table/brown with glass top
Used off white couch
2 bar stools Like new!!!

Call Karen 413-436-8120

Wait, there's more!

Helping Wales Community Pantry We are still collecting food for the Wales Community Pantry. The Pantry serves the residents of Holland, Wales, and Brimfield. They need peanut butter, jelly, Spam, cereal, and other non-perishable goods. You can drop off food anytime or day the Center is open. Monetary Donations can be made out to Wales Community Pantry. Monetary Donations help the Pantry to order fresh meats and produce.

Need pet food?

Here Today, Adopted Tomorrow has been very generous helping the residents of Holland and other towns by bringing dog and cat food here each week. If you need some for your animals, please stop by any time we are open.

For more information, call the Holland Community Center at 413-245-3163, visit on Facebook or go to town. holland.ma.us/community-center.

McNeely Tree Service

Insured • References

- Hazardous Tree Removal
- Stump Grinding
- Bobcat Work
- Lot Clearing
- Furnace Wood
- Storm work
- Firewood \$220/cord
- 101 ft Aerial Lift Rental POR

H: 508-867-6119 • C: 978-888-1693



FOR RENT

Quabbin Estates

41 Church Lane, Wheelwright, MA 01094

Accepting applications for immediate open. The apartment features - w/w carpeting, kitchen appliances, maintenance coverage, laundry facilities. We specialize in Senior Housing and "Barrier Free" accessible units. Rent is \$797/mo. or 30% of income, whichever is higher. RD regulations. Handicap Accessible apartments when available.

CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT
413-477-6496
TDD (800)439-2379



HELP WANTED

Machine Operator/Packer

Local Plastics Manufacturer seeking reliable workers for Second Shift position 4:00 PM to Midnight, M-F. No experience necessary, will train. Paid vacation and sick time, health insurance and 401(K). Apply in person.

CBIS, Inc.
25 Freight House Road
West Brookfield, MA
508-867-4241

An Equal Opportunity Employer



Glenda's

Open
Thanksgiving
1:00 pm

Come Down
& Watch
The Game,
Pool & Keno!

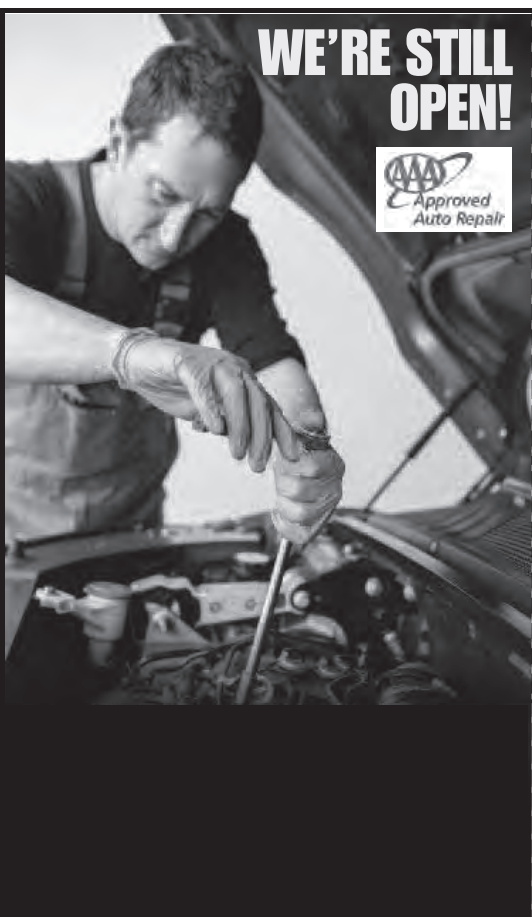
Wednesday, November 24th
Thanksgiving Eve
Down Right Country
8pm-Midnight

Friday Nights
Karaoke with Dave

Upcoming Events:

Saturday, December 11th
Alley Kings
Saturday, December 18th
Moonlight & Saints

948 Main Street, Warren, MA • 413-436-8491



WE'RE STILL
OPEN!



LUBE - OIL - FILTER

With quality Exxon Mobil oil, oil filter, 21 point check, top off all fluids. Up to 5 quarts of oil.

\$22⁹⁵ Excludes diesel & synthetic

Most Vehicles - With this coupon
Supersedes all other coupons
Expires 11/30/21 T

\$10 OFF

any service over \$150

\$20 OFF

any service over \$250

Most Vehicles - With this coupon
Expires 11/30/21 T

EXHAUST SPECIAL

10% OFF

EXHAUST WORK
UP TO \$50 OFF

Excludes Catalytic Converters
Most Vehicles - With this coupon
Expires 11/30/21 T

WHEEL ALIGNMENT CHECK

\$69⁹⁵

INCLUDES TOE - ALL OTHER
ADJUSTMENTS EXTRA
Most Vehicles - With this coupon
Expires 11/30/21 T



Meet STORM -
Our Newest
Team Member!

- 10% Senior Discount Every Day! (Up to \$50/Parts only/not valid with other coupon offers)
- Automatic Transmission Service
- FREE Towing during working hours (to Jackson's for repair within 15 mile radius)
- Quality Pre-Owned Vehicles • Snow Tire Changeover

JACKSON'S
Auto
Sales & Service



5 Star Authorized
Registered State
Emissions Repair
Facility #RP008269

1307 Park Street (Route 20), Palmer, MA
413-289-1016 • 800-662-1016
TEMPORARY HOURS: MON-FRI 8-4



Viewpoints

SOCIAL SECURITY MATTERS

Why is my Medicare Part B premium so high?

By Russell Gloor
Guest columnist

Dear Rusty: Social Security is deducting \$297 per month for my Medicare Part B coverage. I have what's called a "Windfall Elimination Provision" because I receive a pension from my former state employer. Prior to my 65th birthday in July of this year, Social Security was paying me \$764 per month, but when I turned 65, they reduced my amount to \$467 per month. I read that the Part B premiums for 2021 are \$148.50, so I wonder why I'm paying double that amount? Could it be that I never enrolled in Medicare Part B and they just automatically started deducting that amount? Some sort of penalty? If so, it seems kind of high. Can you explain why I'm paying so much for Medicare Part B? Signed: Curious About Medicare

Dear Curious: Your Part B premium of \$297/month has nothing to do with the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP). WEP affects, reduces, your Social Security retirement benefit amount but doesn't affect your Medicare premium. Your Medicare Part B premium is \$297/month because of a different Medicare rule known as "IRMAA," which is the "Income Related Medicare Adjustment Amount." Here's how IRMAA works: Medicare determines your Part B premium amount each year using your combined income (from all sources) from two years prior, so your 2021 Part B premium is based upon your 2019 income. The income amount used to set your Part B premium is called your Modified Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI), which is your normal Adjusted Gross Income on your tax return plus any other non-taxable income you may have had, including half of your Social Security benefits, non-taxable interest, etc. If your MAGI is over a certain threshold, your Part B premium is more than the standard \$148.50.

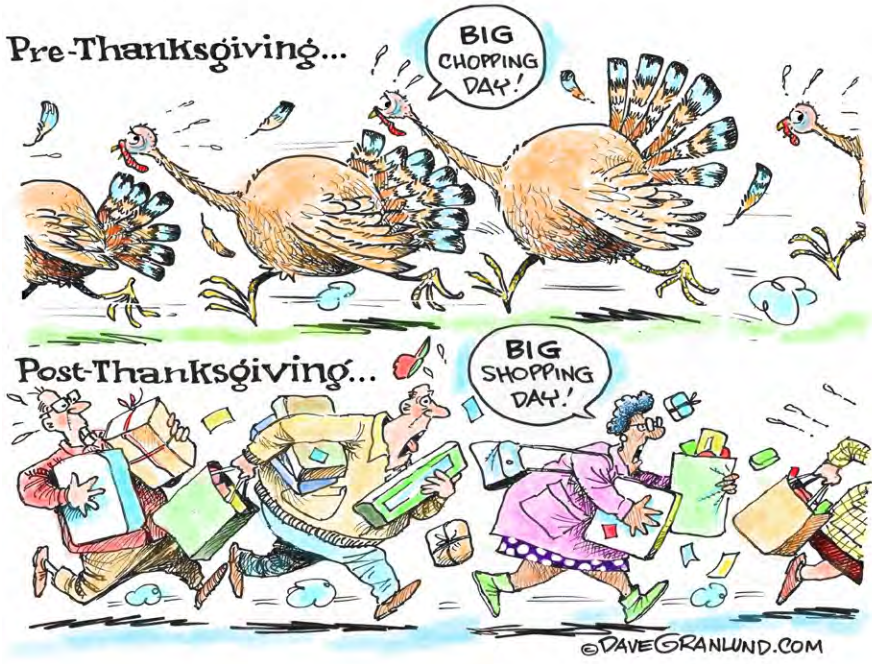
The IRMAA thresholds, at which you pay a higher Part B premium, depend upon your tax-filing status. A married couple filing jointly with MAGI under \$176,001, pays the standard premium (\$148.50 for 2021), and a single tax-filer whose MAGI is under \$88,001 also pays the standard Part B premium, but income exceeding those thresholds means a higher Part B premium. How much higher depends upon how much your MAGI exceeds the base amounts above. The Part B IRMAA premium increases on a scale relative to how much your MAGI exceeds the base threshold and, from what you've shared, it appears that your 2019 MAGI resulted in a 2021 Part B premium of \$297/month.

Since you were already collecting Social Security when you turned 65, you were automatically enrolled in Medicare Part A, which is free, and Medicare Part B, for which you pay a premium, which is why your Medicare premium increased at that time. If you also have "creditable" healthcare from either your or your wife's employer ("creditable" is a group plan with at least 20 participants), you can disenroll from Medicare Part B by filing form CMS-1763 and having an interview with Social Security. That way you could save that \$297 monthly Part B premium for as long as you have other "creditable" employer coverage, and then re-enroll in Part B during the Special Enrollment Period which starts when your employer coverage ends, or shortly before to avoid a gap in healthcare coverage.

If you have retired from working and your combined income in 2020 was much lower than in 2019, Social Security will automatically adjust your 2022 Medicare Part B premium as appropriate for your combined income reported to the IRS on your 2020 tax return. If you retired in 2020, you might also wish to submit form SSA-44 (www.ssa.gov/forms/ssa-44-ext.pdf) to claim a "life changing event," which may result in a smaller Part B premium for 2021 as well.

This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the AMAC Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association. NSSA and the AMAC Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. To submit a question visit amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory or email ssadviser@amacfoundation.org.

Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor at AMAC.



Thanksgiving decorations that highlight the garden

I have always had lot of fun decorating for Thanksgiving. It's something about the sights and smells, I think, from the bright oranges and golden hues to the spicy aroma of pumpkin pie spice and mulled cider that get my creative juices flowing. Here are a few ideas on how to dress up your table and your walls with ornamentation that highlight the best of what autumn has to offer.

Cornucopia centerpieces

The cornucopia, a horn-shaped receptacle filled to the brim with fruit and grain, has long been a symbol of abundance, and for decades now it has been associated with the Thanksgiving holiday. Let your creative juices flow by filling your own cornucopia with whatever natural materials suit you. Wicker cornucopias are easily found at craft stores this time of year. You can go for "easy" by simply using fruit as your filler. Set the cornucopia in place and let the fruit spill out.

You can also mix fruit and grains for a more authentic look, such as some Indian corn and wheat sheaves that will do the trick. Other types of dried plant material look great in a cornucopia as well. If muted tones are your fancy, let the kids scour the yard for pinecones, dried grasses, seed pods and the like. Or, you could always purchase a fall bouquet of everlasting, and use what you need to make a more colorful arrangement. Here too, dry floral foam will come in handy as a base for your stems. You need not discard the cornucopia after Thanksgiving is over. Instead, dress it up with some red berries and pine boughs for an instant Christmas decoration.

Pumpkin votive holders

I saw this online and had to pass it along. Take small, 'Jack be Little' pumpkins and carefully carve out the area

around the stem so that you can place a votive candle on top. Use a hurricane glass to cover the votive, securing it with floral "U" pins. Simply adorable! Often times you can find scone globes of varying sizes and ornamentation at thrift stores; these would work just as well and be unique for sure.

Indian corn wreath

I have wanted to make a wreath comprised completely of small Indian corn ears for many years now. This year might just be the year I do it! According to the experts, the trick is a good base. Most designers recommend using a straw wreath form, the kind available at craft stores. You will end up gluing the individual ears of corn to the base, lining up the tips of the corn as you go. Vary by length and by color to make a visually appealing decoration. It will be a small investment to create the wreath, so be sure to protect it from rodents during the off-season. I store edibles like this on a shelf in my bedroom closet, but any location that is mouse-proof would work, as would double bagging your creations.

I am excited as the next person to celebrate Christmas, but I try to instill in my kids that it is important to "be in the season you are in." Find joy where you are without looking ahead or behind. So with that thought, I leave you to decorate for Thanksgiving!

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For the last 28 years, she has held the position of staff horticulturalist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to ekennedy@turley.com with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.

IN THE GARDEN



History matters

History Matters is a biweekly feature courtesy of The Grateful American Book Prize, which is given to children's books that emphasize the importance of American history.

Nov. 16 to Nov. 30
By John Grimaldi and David Bruce Smith
Guest columnists

On November 19, 1863, Gettysburg National Cemetery was dedicated by a coterie of celebrated patriots which included the renowned orator, Edward Everett. He spoke two hours; President Lincoln's speech was two minutes.

Nobody remembers Everett's words, but Lincoln's 275, the Gettysburg Address, remains memorable, significant and relevant.

The president had traveled there by train a day earlier to unify his thoughts, which he scribbled on the back of an envelope. Shortly after he had dinner, Lincoln finished writing.

Henry Jacobs, a witness to the event, was so moved by Lincoln's remarks as he stood in front of the speaker's stand, that he felt compelled to record his thoughts:

"At first his voice sounded a little strained and high-pitched, as if he were trying to throw his voice to the outer edge of the crowd. He held in his right hand the manuscript he had brought from the White House... He emphasized the words 'of,' 'by,' and 'for' (the people) with a stiff yet sweeping bend of his body, holding the manuscript rigidly in both hands.... Then he drew himself up to his immense height, with his arms outstretched, as he impressively uttered the final words, 'shall not-perish-from-the-earth.'"

For more information, the Grateful American Book Prize recommends "Lincoln in His Own Words" by Milton Meltzer.

Stealth bomber

It was one of the best kept secrets in the history of the American military: the creation of the world's first stealth aircraft, a bomber that had a massive wingspan of 360 feet, but was for practical purpose "invisible." Radar tracking was almost impossible; it couldn't be detected by infrared, sound detectors or seen by the naked eye. It took 10 years of working in in total secrecy for Northrop, later known as Northrop Grumman, to design and build the B-2 Spirit a/k/a Stealth Bomber.

News that America had such an important piece of weaponry was divulged at a Nov. 22, 1989, news conference at Air Force Plant 42 in Palmdale, California.

For more information, the Grateful American Book Prize recommends "Inside the Stealth Bomber: The B-2 Story" by Bill Scott.

First crime lab

Before DNA was used in 1984, criminal investigations were little more than guesswork. But that did not prevent the FBI from establishing its first crime lab on Nov. 24, 1932; in a one room, one-man facility, at its headquarters, Agent Charles Appel, who was in charge, had a microscope to find, identify and compare "trace evidence," plus a helixometer to help him inspect gun barrels. But, according to History.com, "it was actually more for show than function."

FBI Chief J. Edgar Hoover supposedly used the lab for public relations purposes, but over the years, the agency amplified its use of technology. By 1938, its Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory was engaged in scientific analysis of handwriting, typewriting and fingerprints.

The Grateful American Book Prize recommends "Hard Evidence: How Detectives Inside the FBI's Sci-Crime Lab Have Helped Solve America's Toughest Cases" by David Fisher.

Terrorism has changed but remains a threat

By Lee Hamilton
Guest columnist

Twenty years ago, the United States was intently focused on terrorism. The 9/11 attacks had killed 3,000 Americans and profoundly shaken our national sense of safety and security. President George W. Bush declared we were fighting a "war on terror," and vowed we would defeat terrorist organizations.

Since then, we have taken important steps to keep our country safe, and they have been large effective. News coverage of terrorism is relatively rare, and I suspect most Americans wouldn't put it at the top of the list of concerns. But terrorism remains a problem. In September, President Joe Biden signed an executive order continuing the state of emergency that President Bush first declared in 2001. Terrorism, Biden said, remains an "unusual and extraordinary threat."

People can disagree over what is and isn't terrorism, but a common definition is that it is the use of violence against civilians, usually by nongovernmental actors, to create fear in pursuit of political objectives. Counterterrorism, then, is political or military activity to prevent or thwart terrorism.

I believe the complete elimination of terrorism may be beyond our reach and impossible to achieve. Rather, our goal should be to try to reduce it as much as possible, make it less disruptive and less harmful to our way of life and the security of our citizens.

After 9/11, we reorganized government, created the Department of Homeland Security and took steps to improve law enforcement coordination and intelligence sharing. We instituted safety precautions for airline travel and other forms of transportation. We enhanced border security. We sent our military to Afghanistan to ensure it would not be a safe haven for terrorists.

Thankfully, we haven't faced another 9/11-style incident, but new threats have arisen. Jihadists and other extremist groups grew more adept at recruiting and radicalizing followers online. "Lone wolf" attacks claimed dozens of victims. Our growing reliance on computer systems made us more vulnerable to cyberattacks, a threat we have struggled to keep up with.

Terrorist attacks on Americans and our allies continue. In August, as U.S. Personnel were leaving Afghanistan, suicide bombings near the main airport killed about 170 people, including 13 American troops. A group called ISIS-K claimed responsibility. A Defense Department official said that ISIS-K, if unchecked, could have the ability to attack the U.S. and other nations within a year.

More recently, suicide bombers have targeted mosques and other targets across Afghanistan. Meanwhile, terrorist networks have spread from the Middle East to North Africa, the Horn of Africa and the Sahel, terrorizing civilians and destabilizing governments.

Terrorism keeps evolving, and our responses must adapt. The intelligence community says the most urgent threats now come not from international networks but from homegrown and domestic violent extremists, including radical anti-government individuals and groups. It's worth remembering that one of the deadliest attacks on American soil, the April 1995 Oklahoma City bombing, was motivated by hatred of the federal government.

After 9/11, I served as vice chairman of the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks upon the United States, popularly known as the 9/11 Commission. Our work, while not perfect, resulted in many important changes that strengthened homeland security and made us safer.

Last month, commission members reunited at Indiana University to discuss whether America is safer today. One theme in our discussions was that we succeeded because we were bipartisan. In the words of member John Lehman, a former secretary of the Navy, we were "five very active Republicans and five very active Democrats." Yet we came together for the good of the country.

In today's hyper-partisan environment, can Republicans and Democrats lay aside our differences to face up to terrorism and other threats? I believe that we can and the security of our nation depends on it.

Lee Hamilton is a senior advisor for the Indiana University Center on Representative Government; a Distinguished Scholar at the IU Hamilton Lugar School of Global and International Studies; and a Professor of Practice at the IU O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs. He was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives for 34 years.

Election letters to the editor welcome

The *Journal Register* welcomes readers to participate in this year's election campaigns by writing letters to the editor for publication on these pages. Letters of up to 250 words from local residents endorsing candidates on the ballot or discussing campaign issues should be sent to The Journal Register, care of Turley Publications, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069, faxed to 413-289-1977 or emailed to mharrison@turley.com. Please include a daytime telephone number for verification purposes (it will not be printed). Letters must be received by noon Monday to be considered for that Thursday's newspaper. No attack letters will be printed. No letters written by candidates supporting their own candidacy will be printed. If the volume of letters received is larger than the space available in the newspaper, or if the letters become repetitive, the newspaper reserves the right to print a representative sample. No endorsement letters will be printed in the last edition before the election.

For more information, call editor Michael Harrison at 413-283-8393.

Campaign news

As part of its election coverage, the newspaper plans to print stories about contested races for Congress, state Senate, state House, district attorney and Governor's Council during the weeks leading up to the election, as well as a question-and-answer voters guide. In order to ensure fairness to all candidates, no political press releases will be printed, nor will reporters cover political rallies or fundraisers.

Candidates who wish to further publicize their candidacy, beliefs and events may contact advertising, 413-283-8393 about paid advertising in The Journal Register.

Letters to the editor policy

Letters to the editor should be 250 words or less in length, and guest columns between 500-800 words. No unsigned or anonymous opinions will be published. We require that the person submitting the opinion also include his or her town of residence and home telephone number. We must confirm authorship prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions deemed to be libelous, unsubstantiated allegations, personal attacks, or defamation of character.

Please send opinions to:
The Journal Register
Letter to the Editor
24 Water St.,
Palmer MA 01069,
or by e-mail to:
mharrison@turley.com

The submission deadline for consideration is Monday at noon.

The Journal Register

The *Journal Register* (USPS 418-940) is published every Thursday by Turley Publications, Inc., 24 Water St., Palmer, Mass. 01069. Telephone (413) 283-8393, Fax (413) 289-1977.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Journal Register, 24 Water St., Palmer, Mass. 01069.

PATRICK H. TURLEY
CEO

KEITH TURLEY
President

EDITOR
Michael Harrison
mharrison@turley.com

STAFF WRITER
Jonah Snowden
jsnowden@turley.com

ADVERTISING SALES
Call 413.283.8393

SPORTS EDITOR
Greg Scibelli
sports@turley.com

SOCIAL MEDIA

@ Journal Register

WEB
www.journalregister.turley.com

Turley Publications, Inc.
www.turley.com

Turley Publications, Inc. cannot assume liability for the loss of photographs or other materials submitted for publication. Materials will not be returned except upon specific request when submitted.

Our advertisers make this publication possible.

Let them know you saw their ad in the

Journal Register

Share your thoughts and suggestions with our staff and your fellow readers. Participate in our opinion pages, or contact us anytime with your feedback!

The Journal Register
Your Community Newspaper

www.journalregister.turley.com
mharrison@turley.com • 413.283.8393

Pediatrician Dr. John O'Reilly answers questions about COVID-19 shots for children

SPRINGFIELD — America is taking another step forward in the battle against COVID-19. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announced on Nov. 2 that they have approved for emergency use authorization (EUA) the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine for children ages 5-11.

"Pediatricians and parents should be very excited about the approval of the COVID-19 vaccine for children ages 5-11. Some parents may be reluctant to have their children in this age group vaccinated, but if a day of soreness can get your child safely back to playing with friends and visiting relatives, then the benefits clearly outweigh the discomfort," said Dr. John O'Reilly, chief, General Pediatrics, Baystate Children's Hospital.

The Baystate Children's Hospital pediatrician noted children have been suffering physically, emotionally, and developmentally throughout the pandemic, and that having them vaccinated is a great first step to getting them back safely to a normal life.

"We are in the midst of a pediatric mental health crisis, with a dramatic increase in the number of children presenting to pediatric offices and emergency rooms with depression, anxiety, substance use and suicidality. These mental health conditions have been exacerbated by the stress and social isolation of the pandemic. Having our children vaccinated will help get them out of the unhealthy isolation of their rooms and back into sports and after-school programs where they can start to enjoy fun activities with friends," said Dr. O'Reilly.

O'Reilly provides answers to your important questions below regarding children being vaccinated for COVID-19:

Q: Why is it important for children to be vaccinated against COVID-19?

A: Most children infected with COVID-19 experience mild symptoms, however, since the pandemic began in 2019, about 1.9 million children ages 5-11 years have been infected, about 9% of all U.S. cases. More than 8,300 in this age group have been hospitalized, with about a third requiring ICU care, and 94 have died, according to federal data. Children ages 5 to 11 who are Black, Native American, or Hispanic are three times more likely to be hospitalized with COVID than White children. The death toll in the past year puts COVID in the top 10 causes of death for this age group. Also, several thousand children infected with the virus have developed severe cases of inflammation throughout their bodies known as multisystem inflammatory syndrome (MIS-C), while others are reporting long COVID symptoms similar to adults such as headache, cough, fatigue and more.

Parents who vaccinate their children not only protect them, but they also protect everyone their children come in contact with. In school, it protects vulnerable classmates and adult staff whose medical conditions put them at risk for severe COVID 19. It also protects family members, and makes visiting at-risk family members at the holidays safer for everyone. Vaccinating our kids also helps to protect our communities. The higher our community immunization rates, the lower the risk of COVID-19 rapidly spreading through our at-risk community members.

Q: Can every child of appropriate age get the COVID-19 vaccine or is it just for high-risk

children?

A: The vaccine is for all children, not just those at high risk. It is critical for our children with asthma, obesity, diabetes, hypertension, immunocompromised states, and any chronic medical condition to get vaccinated against COVID-19. These conditions put those youth at risk of getting serious COVID-19, and the vaccine will help keep our most vulnerable youngsters from getting sick enough to be hospitalized.

The only children who should not get the COVID-19 vaccine are those with a proven allergy to the vaccine components, which is exceedingly rare. If you have concerns about whether your child should get the COVID-19 vaccine, talk to their pediatrician.

Q: How safe is the vaccine for this younger age group – has it been rushed to market?

A: As a pediatrician, I have been hoping for this approval for months. I was very glad that the FDA took the time to be sure that the vaccine was safe and effective for children in this age group before it was approved. The trials looked at a number of vaccine dosages to be sure that the two 10 mcg doses administered 21 days apart, and 1/3 of the dose of adults and older teens, was the safest. Clinical trials of over 3,000 children who received the vaccine found it produced protective levels of antibodies with only mild reactions to the shot, such as pain at the injection site, fatigue, and headache.

There has been a lot of misinformation about the development of the mRNA vaccines, especially focused on how fast the COVID vaccines were rolled out. The truth is that we have been working on the development of mRNA vaccines for decades. The basic scientific advances in gene sequencing and gene modeling allowed companies to quickly adapt mRNA technology to the COVID-19 virus.

Vaccine development is very expensive, and companies developing other vaccines would be slower in developing them because of the cost. "Operation warp speed" gave companies billions of dollars in support and guaranteed purchases, allowing companies to use those funds to quickly ramp up clinical trials and manufacturing. The trials themselves followed the highest standards of research, and the FDA has reviewed all of the trial data to be sure that the COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective.

Q: What about myocarditis which has been seen mostly in males under 30 years?

A: The FDA and the CDC have a well-developed system to monitor adverse events following vaccination. That surveillance found a rare association of myocarditis, an inflammation around the heart, with mRNA vaccination in older teens and younger adults, particularly in men.

The risk of developing myocarditis from a vaccine is far lower than the risk of getting myocarditis from a COVID-19 infection. This is particularly true for this 5 to 11 age group, who are at risk for the multisystem inflammatory syndrome (MIS-C) that can follow even a mild COVID-19 infection.

Q: How effective is the vaccine and is it effective against the delta variant.

A: The vaccine was proven to be 90.7% effective in clinical trials, including against the widespread delta variant. That is an amazing level of protection for our kids, which will keep them safe in school, in their after-school programs, and when they visit relatives over the holidays.

Q: Will children eventually need booster shots similar to adults?

A: Pediatricians and parents are used to infants and children getting booster shots for other vaccines, and we will likely have to do boosters for COVID-19 as well. The timing of the booster shots will depend on how long the COVID vaccine will provide protection to kids in each age group. As part of the clinical trials, patients will continue to be monitored for the long-term safety and effectiveness of the vaccines. Those ongoing studies will tell us when kids will need COVID-19 boosters.

Q: Do children need to be vaccinated even if they have had the coronavirus?

A: Yes. Studies have shown that people who have been infected with COVID-19 are at least twice as likely to be re-infected with COVID-19. Vaccination results in the creation of immune memory cells. Those cells help the immune system fight off any future COVID-19 infections and protect them from serious illness and hospitalization.

Q: Do children still need to get the flu shot if they are vaccinated for COVID-19?

A: Yes. Influenza is still a very serious respiratory illness. In our last full influenza season 2019-2020, 199 pediatric patients

were killed by influenza and tens of thousands of pediatric patients were hospitalized. We are worried about the "twindemic" of influenza and COVID-19 illnesses in quick succession. Since last year, there was little influenza illness in our area, so our younger children have no natural immunity to influenza and are more likely to get seriously ill. Getting your child their flu vaccine as soon as possible will help protect them from serious illness, hospitalizations, and death. And, they can get the COVID and flu vaccines at the same time.

Q: Where will these COVID-19 vaccines be administered?

A: Pediatric and family medicine practices, as well as some retail pharmacies, will be administering the vaccine for children 5 to 11.

At Baystate Health, the Pfizer vaccine for ages 5-11 will be available to established patients at Baystate Mason Square Neighborhood Health Center, Baystate General Pediatrics, Baystate Brightwood Health Center, Baystate Family Medicine Northampton, Baystate Family Medicine Greenfield, and Quabbin Pediatric Medicine. These sites will shortly be announcing specific clinic dates for this vaccine to their patients.

"I can't emphasize enough how important it is for parents to make the right decision to vaccinate their children. It can be life-saving for your child and further protect those in your household as well as the community from this terrible disease that spares no one. I am looking forward to a holiday season when kids are fully vaccinated and we can all gather with friends and family to celebrate being together without fear of COVID," said O'Reilly.

For more information on Baystate Children's Hospital, visit baystatehealth.org/bch.

Welcome Home Place returns this Saturday, Nov. 20

WARE — Welcome Home Place, a free gathering and resource center for area veterans, service members and military families, returns Saturday, Nov. 20, from 9 to 11 a.m., at the E2E Center at 79 Main St. The Brookfield Institute runs the Welcome Home Place and works to build resilience in veterans, service members and military families. One of the best ways to do that is to get to know and hang out with other veterans and their families, the primary reason for Welcome Home Place.

There also will be opportunities to learn about a new hiking initiative, reiki and storytelling.

Bobby Curley, of the North Quabbin Trails Association, will talk about the burgeoning Hike+Heal program, plus the many trails and opportunities to get outdoors.

There will be demonstrations of reiki, a form of energy healing using hands and palms to encourage emotional and physical healing.

Alan Jackson, a Brookfield board member and a retired Master Sergeant with 24 years of service in the Massa-

chusetts Army National Guard, who also grew up in a military family, will host a discussion on storytelling and its multiple benefits to both the teller and the listener. He will explain how veterans, service members and military families can get involved and tell their stories.

Roy Dennington, one of the veterans active in Welcome Home Place, is looking forward to gathering together, something he and many others have missed during the pandemic.

"Some of the veterans groups moved online," he said, but attendance dwindled over time. It's starting to pick up again now, and Dennington is expecting more and more gatherings over the coming months. Seeing other people gives us "a hope that we are finding some sort of normalcy in life. Humans are a species that needs to be together to survive."

The free event will also include coffee and breakfast munchies. Plans are to host Welcome Home Place every other month. For more information, go to www.brookfieldinstitute.org.



Monson Arts Council presents
its 42nd Annual
HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 27TH
9 AM - 4:30 PM

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28TH
11:30 AM - 4:00 PM

70 Exhibitors in Four Buildings
in Easy Walking Distance

200 Main Street (Route 32), Monson, MA
MA Pike Exit 63, 32 south

- Free Admission -
For More Info Call 413-218-0693

The 25th Annual Monson Memorial Classic was held on November 7, 2021.

This event is held in loving memory of Kelly Waldron and Kathy Waldron Perry, and consists of a half marathon and a 5K race. It is our mission to raise funds for local organizations that provide support for cancer patients and their families. This year we will donate to:

GRIFFIN'S FRIENDS
griffinsfriends.com



Special Thanks to Our Generous Sponsors!

PLATINUM SPONSOR

Monson Savings
Your Bank Forever

GOLD SPONSOR



SILVER SPONSOR

Town of Monson ~
Gifts Fund

BRONZE SPONSOR

Kelley Building Group, Inc.
Adams IGA Round-Up

PATRON SPONSORS

Align Wellness & Physical Therapy
Baker's Self Storage
Bob McCurry
C.R. Levesque Trucking
Dave & Nancy Santucci
Dunkin' Donuts
Hair-It-Is
Hawk Woodworking
H & L Tassinari Builders

Kathryn Esser, Landmark Realtors
Lombard Funeral Home
Ludlow Chiropractic
Richard R. Green Insurance
S & K Law Care
Sunsetview Farm Camping Area
Tully Manufacturing
Viant
Westview Farms Creamery

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEER MUSICIANS!

Nicole Ouimet, Steve Cleary and
The Quaboag Highlander Pipes & Drums



For Race Results Visit our website:
www.monsonmemorialclassic.com

Follow Us On



• AUTO • HOME • BUSINESS • LIFE

• Great Locations • Free registry service
• Quotes gladly given • We make housecalls

Please visit our website for an auto,
homeowners, or life insurance quotes

Two Locations:



128 Main St.
Monson, MA
267-3495

32 Somers Rd.
Hampden, MA
566-0028



Fax: 413-267-3496

Email: richardgreenins@gmail.com

www.richardgreeninsurance.com



NOTICE

ERRORS: Each advertiser is requested to check their advertisement the first time it appears. This paper will not be responsible for more than one corrected insertion, nor will be liable for any error in an advertisement to a greater extent than the cost of the space occupied by the item in the advertisement.

In the classroom



Turley Publications staff photos by Jonah Snowden
Students of Pathfinder Tech take a group photo before this year's Stock Market Challenge.



Each team of students was given a hypothetical \$1,000,000 to invest in over 50 fictitious stocks.



Pathfinder Tech Students Shannon Dennehy and Elinor Russell, who make up team Funk Pop Stocks, came in second place in the Junior Achievement Stock Market Challenge.

Students learn what it takes to work on Wall Street

By Jonah Snowden
jsnowden@turley.com

SPRINGFIELD — Students from Pathfinder Tech and Hampshire Regional High School put their stock market trading skills to the test through the Junior Achievement of Western Massachusetts annual Stock Market Challenge.

In this 60-day simulation event, each group was given \$1,000,000 in hypothetical funding to invest in over 50 fictitious stocks, which included eRide Technologies, Freedom Credit Union, Major Motor Corps., Solar Solutions Systems and more. The competition was held Nov. 12 at the Cedars Banquet Facility in Springfield and remotely. Students from other area teams will compete later this month.

Members of Pathfinder Tech's group, which had several students divided into different teams, were all excited to compete. Pathfinder Tech juniors Max Sanderson, Sean

Moon and Cody Ostigui — all part of the team called the Gwedegus Gang — came in second place.

"This one stood out to us because we've been doing a lot of practice and learning a lot about the stock market," Moon said.

"We wanted to get a more in-depth understanding of it. I feel like it gives us an advantage later in life, obviously with different things that we get to learn as opposed to other students. We appreciate this opportunity."

Sanderson also said the challenge was a real-time lesson on how fast markets can rise and fall.

Pathfinder Tech's Business Technology instructor, Amy Skowrya, said she pushed her students to participate in this competition because it is an enriching environment to learn in. She also gave them advice on how they can win the competition.

"I advised them to not keep their money in cash because there's no movement there, and just keep paying attention to not only their stocks but also to who's winning so they can help develop their strategy for what to buy," Skowrya said.

Although it exposes students to what it's like to manage money in a fluid market, the competition isn't a replica of the real thing.

"This game is a little different than the real world because real-world stocks move a little bit slower," Skowrya said.

"It's a mock simulation, so it's a little different."

In the end, Hampshire Regional's Team, Raiders, were victorious in the competition. The team consisted of students Sage Antonio, Samuel Umger, Liam Reynolds, Isabella Colton and Brian Freed, who were equally excited.

"I think the moment we realized we won was with Eride Technologies," Umger said.

"We hit about a 20-percent gain and thought if we sold and went all-in, we could ride it to the end."

Reynolds said setting aside money also helped them secure their victory.

"That's when we started to make big gains when we had money to buy stocks and they were super low. And then let them rise," Reynolds said.

"That's what we did with Eride. It was at \$49 a share and ended at \$69 a share."

He also said reading the news on these fictitious stocks was helpful.

Because of an online issue, Putnam Vocational Academy, St. Thomas the Apostle School, West Springfield High School and Wilbraham-Monson Academy couldn't participate virtually and are scheduled to compete on Nov. 22.

Junior Achievement said the event was made possible through the generosity of its business partners and recognized the following for their contributions: St. Germain Investment Management, Event Sponsor; Savage Arms and Balise, Platinum Sponsors; Peoples Bank and Country Bank, Gold Sponsors; Webster Bank, Portfolio Sponsor; and TD Bank, Trader Sponsor. Elms College is the Education Sponsor. Silver Sponsors include Polish National Credit Union, Westfield Gas & Electric, Monson Savings Bank, Easthampton Savings Bank, and Westfield Bank. Bronze Sponsors include Bay Path University, MMWEC, Excel Dryer, and The Collins Companies. Table Sponsors include Quabbin Wire & Cable, Florence Bank, Wolf & Company, and Freedom Credit Union.

Ware Republican Town Committee

The Ware RTC would like you to join us for a Christmas Fundraiser.
An evening of conservative conversation and dinner.

Thursday, December 2, 2021 • 6:30 pm
Teresa's Restaurant • 315 Palmer Road, Ware

Featured Guest Speakers:

KATIE WILLIAMS

- U.S. Veteran
- Was named Miss Nevada in 2019
- School Committee Member on Clark County, Nevada

KIM KLACIK

- Republican Nominee for Maryland's 7th Congressional District
- American Businesswoman and Politician

KAROLINE LEAVITT

- Former Spokesperson for House GOP Conference Chair Elise Stefanik
- Trump's Former Assistant Press Secretary

ANNA KHAIT

- Former Survivor Contestant from: Survivor Kaoh Rong
- Former Professional Poker Player
- Trump Supporter

Suggested donation \$100

Please make checks payable and mail to:
Ware Republican Town Committee
PO Box 553, Ware, MA 01082

For tickets or info, please contact:
Gerry Fountain: 413-427-2192 or gfountainjr1@gmail.com
Paul Harper: 413-537-3422 or diveaddict1@comcast.net

Paid for by Ware RTC

BUY DIRECT

USDA INSP. FRESH PORK SHOULDER PICNIC **\$1.35** lb

USDA INSP. FRESH BONE-IN PORK LOIN LOIN END or RIB ROAST **\$1.33** lb

USDA INSP. FRESH GROUND PORK..... **\$2.29** lb

USDA INSP. FRESH WHOLE HAM **\$1.49** lb

USDA INSP. SMOKED BONELESS KAYEM BUDABALL WHOLE SMOKED PIT HAM **\$3.49** lb

USDA INSP. FROZEN 1/2 SPIRAL HAM **\$1.49** lb

USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF TENDERLOIN CUT FREE **\$8.88** lb

USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF RIBEYE WHOLE OR HALF CUT FREE **\$9.22** lb

USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF SIRLOIN SPOON ROAST **\$4.44** lb

USDA INSP. SKINLESS & SHANKLESS BUDABALL WHOLE SMOKED HAM **\$2.59** lb

USDA INSP. FROZEN TURKEY BREAST **\$1.69** lb

USDA INSP. FROZEN BONELESS & SKINLESS CHICKEN THIGHS TRAY PAK **\$1.77** lb

USDA INSP. SMOKED HUMMEL BROS KIELBASA 20 OZ..... **\$5.99** ea

USDA INSP. IQF FRESH COOKED SHRIMP 26/30 COUNT 2 LB BAG..... **\$16.99** ea

USDA INSP. IQF FROZEN JUMBO RAW SHRIMP SHELL ON 16/20 COUNT 2 LB BAG..... **\$14.99** ea

USDA INSP. FROZEN 10" PUMPKIN PIE..... **\$2.99** ea

ALSO A COMPLETE LINE OF GOURMET CAKES & DESSERTS!!!

Wishing You a HAPPY THANKSGIVING

90 Meat Outlet

HOURS: Mon. - Wed. 8-4
Thurs. 8-6 • Fri. 8-6 • Sat. 8-3

90 Avocado St. Springfield

413-737-1288

www.90meat.com

OPEN 11/26/21

SALE DATES: 11/18/21 - 11/24/21

BUY DIRECT FOR SAVINGS • SELECTION • SERVICE

We reserve the right to limit quantities.

Season's Greetings.

KINDLY NOTE OUR Holiday Hours

THANKSGIVING

THURSDAY 11/25 & FRIDAY 11/26

CLOSED

CHRISTMAS

SATURDAY 12/25

CLOSED

FRIDAY

DECEMBER 24TH

OPEN UNTIL 12PM

FRIDAY

DECEMBER 31ST

OPEN UNTIL 4PM

SATURDAY

JANUARY 1ST

CLOSED

(800) 322-8233 | countrybank.com | Member FDIC • Member DIF



sports@turley.com



@turleysports



facebook.com/turleysports

SPORTS

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

SEND US YOUR SPORTS SUBMISSIONS

www.sports.turley.com

FOOTBALL

Palmer looks to avenge spring loss to Ludlow

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

PALMER—No current player listed on the Palmer varsity football roster has ever celebrated a victory against rival Ludlow.

The Panthers (8-2) will be looking to change that when they host the Lions (2-8) at Legion Field on Thanksgiving morning. Kickoff for the 74th meeting is scheduled for 10 a.m.

Ludlow, which has suffered a boatload of injuries this fall, holds a 40-30-3 edge in the rivalry series.

The Lions, who are coached by Ray Saloio, have won nine of the past 10 games against the Panthers on the gridiron, including the last four. They've outscored the Panthers, 113-22 in those four games.

Ludlow defeated Palmer, 21-14, during the Fall 2 season at the Ludlow Sports Complex, last April.

After their first four games of this season, Ludlow had a 2-2 record. Their two victories were at Belchertown (12-6) and at home win versus Taconic High School (36-20). They'll arrive in Palmer looking to snap a six-game losing streak.

The Lions seniors, who'll be putting on the football uniform for the final time are John Lewis, Andrew Hervieux, Ben Guerin, Brandon Gomes, Michael Gilrein, Collin Doyle, Michael Clemente, and Joe Bates.

The last time that the Panthers players and coaches enjoyed their turkey dinners was following a 34-6 win in 2016. Ryan McCarthy was the Panthers senior starting quarterback that season. Michael Blazejowski, who was another senior on the 2016 squad, was selected as the Leonard J. Bailey Award winner.

The prestigious 53rd Annual Bailey Award will be given to one of the Palmer players by Jacob Mastalerz during a ceremony at halftime. Mastalerz was the award winner in the game played in April. His older brother, Kyle, received the award in 2017.

The Panthers coaching staff, which normally selects the Bailey Award winner, has many outstanding candidates to choose from this season. The award recipient must possess the qualities of sportsmanship, ability, team spirit, attitude, selflessness, and academic achievement.

The Palmer seniors are Anthony Ukrainets, Jack Letendre, Brady Goguen, Try Yesu, Brady Stahelski, Michael Ziemba II, Chance Lee, Ethan Tremblay, Xavier Nava, Trinal Cooper, Robert Burke, Richard Ingrassia, Roman Cardenales, Logan Fontaine, and Jaden Nava.

While a senior has won the Bailey Award many times in the past, any member of the Panthers varsity football team is eligible.

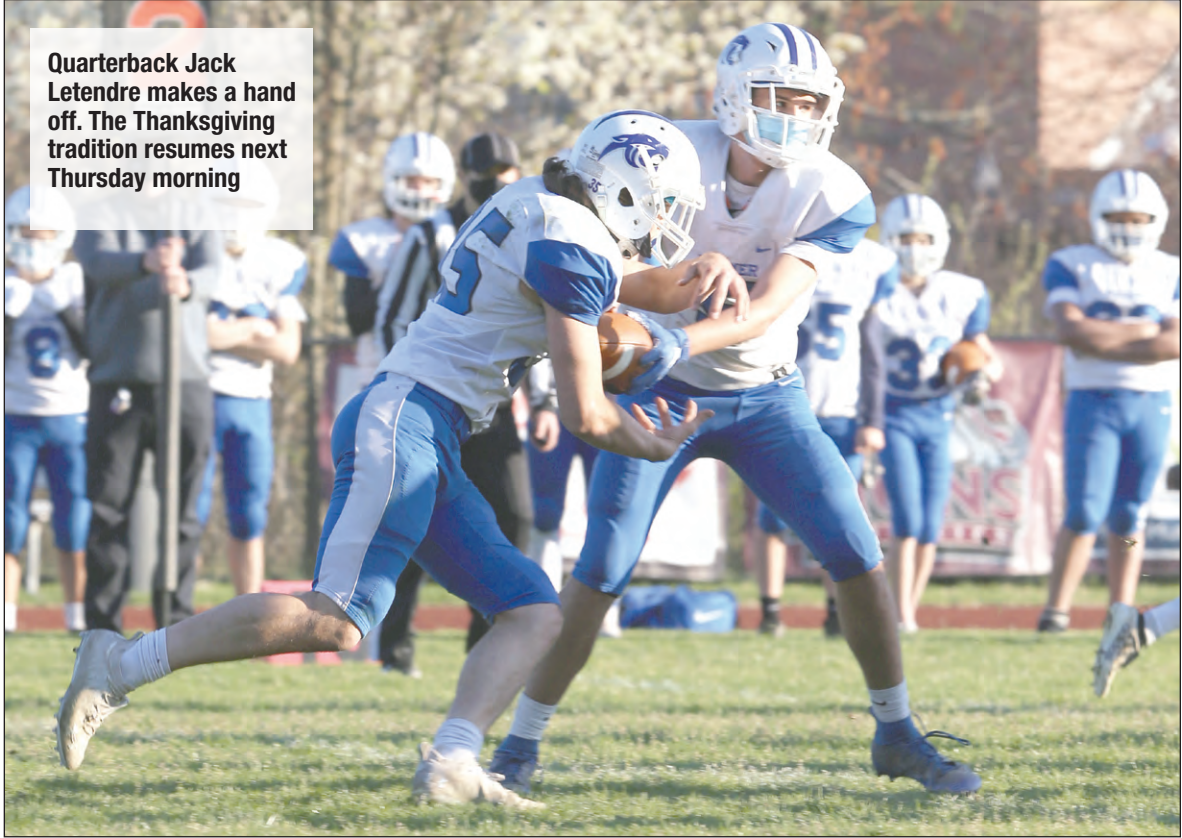
The three Panthers junior starters are Keith LaVallie, Jason Cousineau, and Dominic Allen.

Palmer, who's coached by Matt Marciniec, began the regular season with three one-sided victories against cross-town rival Pathfinder, Frontier Regional, and Commerce.

The Panthers then suffered a 42-21 road loss against archival Ware High School before closing out the regular season with four more wins.

After defeating 14th-seeded Brighton, 45-15 in the first round

Quarterback Jack Letendre makes a hand off. The Thanksgiving tradition resumes next Thursday morning



Brady Goguen takes the ball on a carry.



Ludlow High School Football 2021-2022 Roster

No.	Name	Position	Grade
1	Jayce LaBier	WR	11
9	Michael Sternowski	WR	11
10	Cody Baker	QB	9
16	Alexander Nicoll	WR	11
21	Michael Clemente	WR	12
25	Yuhio Jang	LB	11
27	Michael Del Negro	WR	11
29	Joshua Marino	RB	10
30	Anthony Emco	RB	10
34	Anthony Grimm	RB	9
37	Michael Gilrein	RB	12
43	Keith Swiderski	RB	11
44	Andrew Hervieux	RB	12
50	Tristin Stephens	DT	9
51	Jack Paquin	OG	11
52	Adrian Reed	OG	9
54	John Lewis	OG	12
59	Benjamin Guerin	OG	12
64	Luke Sunderland	OG	11
66	Adam Krutka	OG	11
67	Mason Peltier	OG	11
68	Joseph Bates	OG	12
72	Dominic Gendreau	OG	9
76	Alex Freitas	OG	10
80	Derek Deroin	WR	12
82	Brandon Gomes	WR	12
83	Collin Doyle	TE	12
85	Ashton Leary	TE	9
86	Daniel Krutka	TE	10
87	Brady Trahan	WR	9

Palmer High School Football 2021-2022 Roster

No.	Name	Position	Grade
3	Anthony Ukrainets	WR/DB	12
5	Jack Letendre	QB/DB	12
7	Drew McAlary	WR/DB	11
9	Brady Goguen	RB/DB	12
10	Trey Yesu	WR	12
12	Brady Stahleski	QB/DB	11
21	Michael Ziemba II	TE	12
24	Chance Lee	RB/DB	12
27	Ethan Tremblay	K/WR	12
30	Keith Lavalie	RB/LB	11
33	Sebastian Nava	RB/LB	10
35	Xavier Nava	RB/LB	11
40	Hunter White	WR	8
42	Trinal Cooper	RB	12
44	Zander Cooper	WR	9
45	Shane Normoyle	TE	8
52	Robert Burke	OL	12
55	Jason Cousineau	OL	11
57	Damon Cardenales	OL	11
63	Julien Valentin	OT	9
68	Richard Ingrassia	OT	12
71	Andrew Haley	OL	10
78	Dominic Allen	OL/DT	11
79	Roman Cardenales	OL/DT	12
81	Kameron Sligar	WR	9
86	Tim Peiwhiet	WR	10
87	Logan Fontaine	TE	12
88	Jaden Nava	TE	12



Photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Xavier Nava follows his blockers.

SOCCER

Top-seeded Mustangs continue cruise through tournament

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

MONSON— It didn't take 80 minutes for the Monson girls soccer team to pour on the offense in the second round of the tournament.

All of the action in the Division 5 state tournament round of 16 contest between the Hull Lady Pirates and Monson Lady Mustangs took place during the first 25 minutes of the opening half.

The top-seeded Lady Mustangs coasted to an 8-0 victory over the 16th-seeded Lady Pirates on a beautiful fall afternoon at Larry Tassinari Field in Monson last Tuesday.

"I thought my girls just came out amped up and played at a very high level in today's game," said Monson head coach Eric Degnan. "We passed the ball very well and we finished nearly every opportunity that we had early in the game."

Six Monson players either had an assist or a goal in the shut-out home victory versus Hull High School, which is located on a peninsula surrounded by the Atlantic Ocean.

"We have a very unselfish team this year," Degnan said. "We do have a number of different girls when given the opportunity who can assist or score a goal. It's something that doesn't happen very often."

The duo of freshman Tennessee Murphy and sophomore Ciara Monaghan finished the match with four points apiece. Murphy recorded a hat-trick and had an assist, while Monaghan scored a pair of goals and added two assists. Sophomore Kendall Bodak also contributed with a goal and an assist.

The longtime Monson head coach was very impressed with the performance of both Monaghan and Bodak.

"Ciara and Kendall controlled the middle third of the field very well for us in today's game," Degnan said. "Both of them did a good job of collecting the ball and reading the play. They're always looking for someone to pass the ball to and they're so unselfish."

Any thoughts that Hull, who finished their season with a 9-9-1 overall record, had about upsetting the undefeated Lady Mustangs (22-0) didn't last very long.

Monson took a 1-0 lead on a corner kick three minutes into the first half. Tennessee Murphy booted the ball from the right corner into the box where Monaghan headed it into the net past Hull junior goalkeeper Amelia Donovan (5 saves).

"When we scored that corner kick goal three minutes into the game, it showed that we were ready to go," Degnan said. "We played very well, and we earned the right to practice tomorrow, which is our main goal during the postseason tournament. It's just a fun group of kids to coach this year."

Three minutes later, junior Emmy Finnegan split a pair of defenders before firing a shot that deflected off the goalie's right hand and the ball bounced across the goal-line extending the Lady Mustangs lead to 2-0. Eighth grader Hannah Murphy was credited with the assist.

During the eighth minute, Monaghan scored her second goal

Please see **MUSTANGS**, page 9

RACING

Hirschman celebrates Tri Track championship



Submitted photo

Matt Hirschman has won a record six Tri Track championships after his title win in 2021.

SEEKONK – Matt Hirschman has become the man everyone wants to be like when it comes to Modified racing.

Whether he's winning races in Pennsylvania or New York, Massachusetts or New Hampshire, Florida, or anywhere in between, Hirschman is always at the front of the field. He's earned his nickname "Big Money" for a reason. Known for winning the biggest money races on the Modified circuit, Hirschman is also known for winning titles.

In 2021, he was back in title form with the Tri Track Open Modified Series. Hirschman sealed a record sixth Tri Track title -- as he extended his record as the only driver to win more than one series title since the inception in 2014.

The season included two wins in two staple, historic events -- the 10th annual SBM Classic at Star Speedway, where he banked over \$17,000 in awards, and the \$10,000 to win Open Wheel Wednesday at Seekonk Speedway in Massachusetts. The win at Seekonk allowed Hirschman to become the first driver in the history of Seekonk's special event to win it four times. It was his fourth win at Star's SBM event as well -- and second straight.

In the end, it was another title

added to the mantle for the Pennsylvania native, as he bested Chase Dowling by 19 points for the crown.

"We had a great year," Hirschman said. "Won the two biggest races and the championship. That's kind of the cherry on top. I've always said these races are more lucrative to win than the championship. But, if you get that in the end, it's a nice accomplishment for the team and shows that we had a good year. We were good at all three tracks and that's what you need to be."

At Seekonk in the season-finales, Hirschman needed to finish 17th or better, no matter what anyone else did, in order to hold the trophy. He scored a fourth-place run, and likely had a faster car and could have contended for the win if he was a bit more aggressive after pitting for a fresh tire. But Hirschman was content finishing there to grab the title -- the ultimate goal for his team.

"We had a good car, but I don't know if we had anything for Chase Dowling," Hirschman said on the track after the October 23 event at Seekonk. "At the end, we were certainly looking around a bit... there

Please see **RACING**, page 9

SCHEDULE / RESULTS

PALMER FOOTBALL (8-2)

- Week 1** – Friday, Sept. 10 – Palmer 28, Pathfinder 0
Week 2 – Friday, Sept. 17 – Palmer 25, Frontier 6
Week 3 – Thursday, Sept. 23 – Palmer 37, Commerce 0
Week 4 – Saturday, Oct. 2 – Ware 42, Palmer 21
Week 5 – Friday, Oct. 8 – Palmer 27, Greenfield 0
Week 6 – Friday, Oct. 15 – Palmer 53,

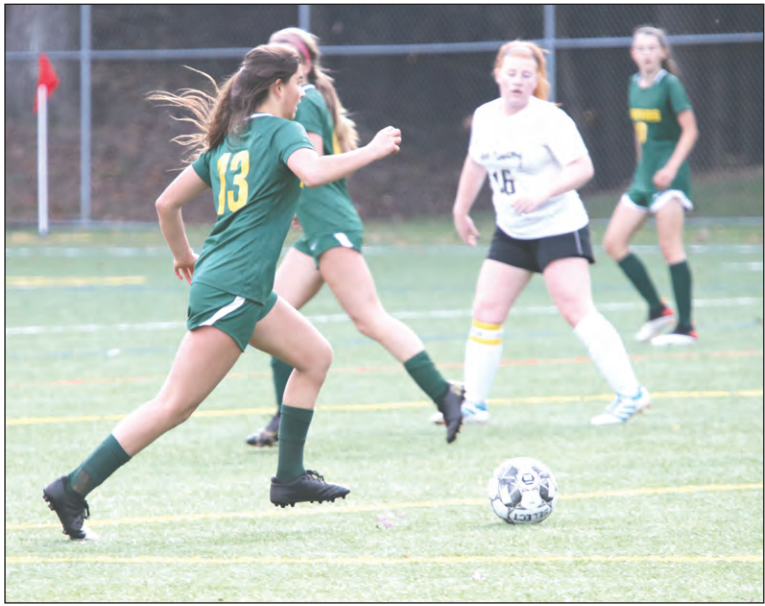
Athol 20

- Week 7** – Friday, Oct. 22 – Palmer 58, Franklin Tech 8
Week 8 – Friday, Oct. 29 – Palmer 59, Mahar 0
Week 9 – Friday, Nov. 5 – State Division 8 First Round – Palmer 45, Brighton 18
Week 10 – Friday, Nov. 12 – Station Division 8 Quarterfinals – Oxford 16, Palmer 13
Thanksgiving – Thursday, Nov. 25 – vs. Ludlow 10 a.m.

LUDLOW FOOTBALL (2-7)

- Week 1** – Friday, Sept. 10 – Quaboag 32, Ludlow 6
Week 2 – Friday, Sept. 17 – Ware 38, Ludlow 0
Week 3 – Thursday, Sept. 23 – Ludlow 12, Belchertown 6
Week 4 – Friday, Oct. 1 – Ludlow 36, Taconic 20
Week 5 – Friday, Oct. 8 – South Hadley 40, Ludlow 8

- Week 6** – Friday, Oct. 15 – Putnam 19, Ludlow 7
Week 7 – Friday, Oct. 22 – Chicopee 28, Ludlow 24
Week 8 – Friday, Oct. 29 – Pittsfield 54, Ludlow 13
Week 9 – Friday, Nov. 5 – Chicopee Comp 29, Ludlow 12
Week 10 – Friday, Nov. 12 – at Greenfield 6 p.m.
Thanksgiving – Thursday, Nov. 25 – at Palmer 10 a.m.



Warriors makes it to second round

Photos by Gregory A. Scibelli

FISKDALE – The Tantasqua Regional High School girls soccer team had a brief run in the state tournament. Despite a No. 25 seed, the Warriors had a big shutout victory in the Round 32 over Bishop Fenwick High School 1-0, advancing to the second quarter. Unfortunately, Austin Prep would stop the Warriors with a 5-0 win. Tantasqua also had to host a qualifying round game, dominating Boston Latin Academy 5-0 in the matchup held at home on Nov. 4. The defeat against Austin Prep ended Tantasqua’s season. Austin Prep was the No. 9 seed in the Division 3 tournament.



Pioneers holding more tryouts

LUDLOW – The Western United Pioneers FC are offering supplemental tryouts for its various youth teams. For players born from 2014 to 2017, please call (413) 330-9775 for sign-ups and more information. Other tryout dates for older players will be in the coming weeks. Tryouts will go from Nov. 8 through 16. Go to www.westernunited-pioneers.org/tryouts for specific dates and times of tryouts.

MUSTANGS from page 7

on a shot from the left side that sailed into the right corner, which was assisted by Bodak.

The Lady Mustangs fourth goal, which was unassisted, came off a rebound shot from Hannah Murphy during the 10th minute.

Monson’s scoring spree continued six minutes later when Bodak added her name to the scoring column by lofting a shot into the right corner after

receiving a pass from sophomore Emma Murphy.

Then Tennessee Murphy took over the spotlight during a five-minute span in the middle of the opening half. She scored three goals increasing the Lady Mustangs lead to 8-0.

“Tennessee has had just an unbelievable season,” Degnan said. “She always works very hard just like every other player on this year’s team has. She’s a very talented soccer player.

Monaghan assisted on two of Murphy’s goals.

“Tennessee and I work very well together,” Monaghan said. “We’re always on the same page and I know where she’s going to be on the field. This is one of the best soccer teams that I played on. Everyone gets along with each other, and we work very well together.”

The only question remaining during the final 55 minutes

of the match was if Monson would be able to post their 12th shutout of the season.

Hull did have a couple of shots on goal early in the second half, but Monson freshman goalkeeper Emily Provost was able to make the saves. Provost was replaced in goal by Sierra Martinson with five minutes left in the match. It marked the first time Martinson was a goalie in a varsity game.

The Lady Mustangs defense, which was led by senior captain Rylee Bonneau, freshman Addie Peterson, sophomore Aniah Myrie, and Emma Murphy, made life very easy for the two goalies.

Monson defeated eighth-seeded Millis, 6-1, in the quarterfinals in their final home match of the season, last Saturday.

Tennessee Murphy recorded a hat-trick and Bodak added four assists.

The Lady Mustangs were slated to face fourth-seeded Sutton in the semifinals on Tuesday night. The Division 5 state championship match is scheduled to take place on Saturday.

RACING | from page 7

was a couple times I wanted to make something happen, but I also didn’t want to look stupid either. We will settle for fourth today.”

In his career, Hirschman leads all drivers with 35 starts, 14 wins and 28 top-fives. He’s been to Victory Lane in 40% of his starts, and has certainly earned his sixth title.

Tri Track Open Modified Series officials have already announced five race dates for the 2022 season, including two dates at Seekonk Speedway (June 29, October 22), one at Star Speedway (July 23), one at Monadnock Speedway (April 30) and one at Thunder Road Speedbowl (May 29). Any additional dates will be announced in the coming weeks.

FOOTBALL | from page 7

of the Division 8 state tournament at Legion Field, the third-seeded Panthers lost to 11th-seeded Oxford, 16-13, in the quarterfinals in another home game on November 12.

While the Palmer players will be looking to end their losing streak against Ludlow on Thanksgiving morning, a victory by the Lions players would send them into the offseason with a little bit of momentum heading towards the 2022 campaign.

[@turleysports](#)

www.turleysports.com

facebook.com/turleysports

Turleysports

Kendall Bodak Athlete of the Week

Monson High School

Bodak had an impressive four assists for Monson High School girls soccer in the quarterfinals of the Division 5 State Tournament against Millis.

To nominate someone for Athlete of the Week, contact Managing Sports Editor Gregory A. Scibelli at 413-283-8393 ext. 258 or send an e-mail to gscibelli@turley.com.



Moulton

Insurance Agency Inc

HOME – AUTO – BUSINESS – LIFE

CONGRATULATIONS ATHLETE!

Very Competitive Rates • Experienced Professional Staff
99% Claim Satisfaction Rate • On-site Registry Processing

143 West Street
Ware, MA 01082

45 North Main Street
Belchertown, MA 01007

www.moultoninsurance.com

413-967-3327

ARBELLA INSURANCE

McGing’s goal in OT lifts T-Birds

ALLENTOWN, Penn. – The Springfield Thunderbirds (9-2-2-0) came away with two points on the road, escaping with a 2-1 overtime win over the Lehigh Valley Phantoms (3-7-3-0) on Saturday night inside the PPL Center. Springfield was gifted early chances to strike first, including a power play in the game’s opening 19 seconds, but the Phantoms’ league-best home-ice penalty kill had the answers on each of the Thunderbirds’ three chances with the extra skater. Phantoms starting goaltender Felix Sandstrom, who stopped 13 shots in a relief effort the night before, followed that up with 16 stops in the opening 20 minutes.

At the other end, Charlie Lindgren only needed to make five saves, but two of those came off of shorthanded bids for a Lehigh Valley team that entered play with a league-high four shorthanded goals. Lindgren was also in the middle of the most notable action of the period when rugged Phantoms winger Garrett Wilson barreled over Lindgren behind the Springfield net, drawing a minor penalty in the process.

The stalemate was broken less than four minutes into the second period when the T-Birds fourth line capitalized on a net-front scramble. Scott Perunovich extended his point streak to 12 games by getting a right-point shot through traffic, and Tanner Kaspick located the puck at the feet of the crease and shuffled a backhandler over a fallen Sandstrom to give Springfield the 1-0 lead. Kean Washkurak also picked up his first assist in the AHL on the tally by Kaspick, his second of the year.

The Springfield penalty kill kept the lead intact with its first action of the night, but the T-Birds power play succumbed to an opponent’s shorthanded unit for the second night in a row at 15:21 when Morgan Frost intercepted a puck at his own blue line, raced up in a 2-on-1 with Max Willman, and hit Willman with a perfect saucer pass in the left circle. From there, Willman pulled the puck to his backhand around a sprawled Lindgren and tallied Lehigh Valley’s league-high fifth shorthanded marker of the season, tying the game, 1-1, heading into the third.

Third-period shots were scarce, as the teams combined for just eight shot attempts in the final frame, but the biggest chance for either side came when Lehigh Valley’s Gerry Mayhew rang a one-timer off the crossbar behind Lindgren, barely missing on giving the Phantoms the lead.

In extra time, the T-Birds received a monstrous save from Lindgren on Willman as the Phantoms moved in on a 3-on-1 with a chance to win it. Moments later, at the 1:52 mark of overtime, Nathan Todd roared down the left-wing and threw a cross-crease pass to Hugh McGing, who chipped it over Sandstrom to give Springfield the 2-1 win. Perunovich picked up the secondary helper, his 20th point of the season, making him the first AHL player to reach the plateau.

The Thunderbirds return to home ice on Friday, Nov. 19 to take on the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Penguins, the first of back-to-back games inside the Thunderdome for Springfield.

Bay State Games accepting applications for interns

REGION – The Bay State Games is pleased to announce that applications are now being accepted for the 2022 Internship Program. The Bay State Games Internship Program offers candidates the opportunity to gain valuable experience in all phases of sport management. Interns will have the opportunity to learn about event management, financial management, operations, sponsorship fulfillment, and media relations. Unlike many other internships, the Bay State Games Internship Program allows candidates to take ownership of specific projects and manage events.

Former Bay State Games interns have gone on to work at prestigious professional sport organizations including the New England Patriots, Washington Wizards and Capitals, Cleveland Cavaliers, Miami Dolphins, and in intercollegiate athletics at the Big East Conference, Princeton University, Northeastern University, and Tufts University.

The internship lasts 10 to 11

weeks, from mid-May until the end of July. Interns are expected to work regular 40-hour weeks during May and June with increased hours in July to accommodate the event schedule during the Summer Games.

There are five or six operations internship positions available and one or two communications positions available. For job descriptions for each position, please visit www.baystategames.org/internships.

The Bay State Games has begun accepting applications on a rolling basis. As applications are received interviews are scheduled on a rolling basis with most positions filled by January 2022. For the best chance of consideration interns should submit their cover letter and resume as early as possible.

Additional information on the scholarship and a link to an application form can be found at www.baystategames.org/internships.

For questions, email info@baystategames.org or call 781-932-6555.



1455 N. Main Street, Third Floor
Palmer, MA 01069
facebook.com/topfloorlearningpalmer

Top Floor Learning, a privately funded non-profit corporation, has been helping others help themselves for 35 years with its Adult Basic Education programs. What makes Top Floor Learning unique is its personalized instruction.

Let TFL’s method of One-to-One private tutoring help you reach your goals with:

- Basic reading, writing and math skills
- High School Equivalency Exam (GED) preparation
- English Language Instruction (including conversation classes)
- Citizenship preparation
- Basic Computer Skills
- Resume Writing
- Tutoring for specialized licenses and tests such as: ASVAB, SAT and TOEFL

WE ARE BACK OPEN For Tutoring

WE ARE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS

WE HAVE A NEW DIRECTOR!
Contact Donna Kimball at dkimball@topfloorlearning.org

COMPUTER HELP IS HERE!
Do you want to learn how to:
• Use a computer • Email
• Create a Facebook page, etc.?

  “like” us on **facebook**
facebook.com/topfloorlearningpalmer

 Celebrate your loved one’s life by donating to Top Floor Learning in their memory.

Need more information on the above? Call 413-283-2329

DEATH NOTICES

Michael Arthur Bechard Sr., 60
Died: Nov. 15, 2021
Funeral service: 9:15 a.m. Nov. 22 at Beers & Story

Dawn Patricia (Lee) Desmarais, 66
Died: Nov. 8, 2021
Memorial service: 11 a.m. Nov. 21 at New Birth Christian Church

Robin Lee Fell, 60
Died: Nov. 5, 2021
Visitation: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Nov. 19 at Beers & Story
Palmer Funeral Home

Jane Elizabeth (Wood) Harrington, 91
Died: Nov. 5, 2021

Douglas J. Lunden, 58
Died: Nov. 4, 2021

Janice E. (Gould) Singleton, 76
Died: Nov. 7, 2021
Memorial Service to be held at later date

O B I T U A R I E S

Michael Arthur Bechard Sr., 60

Michael Arthur Bechard Sr., 60, passed away in Palmer on Nov. 15, 2021, after battling cancer for several years.

Family was everything to Michael, and his memory will be forever cherished by his parents, Arthur and Joanne (Mayo) Bechard of Palmer; his children, Laurin Bechard and her significant other James Forsyth of East Longmeadow, Michael Bechard Jr. of Palmer, Jonathan Bechard of Ware; his brother, Kevin Bechard and his wife Sandy of Palmer; his godson, Kyle Bechard; and his best friend, Dean Mastalerz – who was like a brother to Michael.

He was preceded in death by his brother, Paul Bechard.

Michael was born on July 19, 1961 in Ware. He graduated from Pathfinder Regional High School. Michael worked at Zerro's Corporation for 13 years, at various electric shops, and went on to become a licensed journeyman electrician – a license he continued to renew as recently as this past October. Michael was a member of IBEW Local 7, in Springfield. Between 2006 and 2007, he logged over 100,000 miles driving a semi-tractor trailer truck across the country, and most recently worked at the University of Massachusetts.

Michael coached Little League, Palmer Lil' Girls Softball, and was a self-proclaimed Girl Scout Cookie Dad. Michael was a proud member of the Palmer Historical Society, a frequent visitor of the Palmer Library, and loved anything related

to his French heritage, fishing, reading atlases cover to cover, time at the Quabbin Reservoir, good ice cream, and "Dad jokes." He had an infectious laugh, never met a dog (woofer) he didn't like, and was always up for a road trip.

After his first round of chemo, he treasured various trips with family to Maine, Canada, and California. Michael enjoyed workouts with friends from the LiveStrong Program at the Scantic Valley YMCA, Amvets to see friends and grab a burger and beer, watching with neighbors on his daily walks, watching "NCIS," and rooting for his Dallas Cowboys. Michael was a member of St. Thomas the Apostle Church and attended a Rosary Group at Divine Mercy Church, where he often went to the outside Prayer Grotto.

Years ago, when Michael learned he was having his first child, he wanted to compile the family history, so he began asking questions using his "Columbo Pad" to keep track of information. Long before genealogy websites existed, Michael traveled to churches, cemeteries, town halls, universities, libraries, and arranged many visits/interviews with distant relatives – all throughout New England, New York, and the province of Quebec – to painstakingly compile the family history. Michael had recently created a "Genealogy Room" office, his favorite



room in the house.

Michael loved spending time at and researching the history of the Bechard Family Farm, tracing the property deed history back to 1728. He initiated the annual Bechard Family Picnic several years ago and even while sick recently, Michael was focused on finishing a family tree project – working with a graphic designer to create a framed Family Tree with the Bechard Family Crest for family members.

A walk through visitation will be held for Michael 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 21, at the Beers & Story Palmer Funeral Home, 1475 N Main Street, Palmer. Funeral Services will be held beginning at 9:15 a.m. Monday, Nov. 22, at Beers & Story followed by a 10 a.m. service at St. Thomas the Apostle Church, 1076 Thorndike St., Palmer. Burial will be private.

If you would like to attend Funeral Services virtually, you may do so by accessing the Tribucast link, <https://client.tribucast.com/tcid/5499152406>.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to LiveStrong Foundation, 623 W. 38th St. Ste 300, Austin, TX 78705, or St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 262 Danny Thomas Place, Memphis TN 38105. Visit beersandstory.com to extend online condolences.

Dawn Patricia (Lee) Desmarais, 66

Born Sept. 23, 1955, in Norwalk, Conn., Dawn Patricia (Lee) Desmarais passed away Nov. 8, 2021, peacefully at home surrounded by family.

She was pre-deceased by her mother Amy, her father Stanley and her beloved husband George. She is survived by her two sisters, Karen and Sharon, as well as her four brothers, Mark Michael, Kevin and Raymond and her Aunt Lynn; her son Benjamin, his wife Sarah; her son Eric, his wife Katie; her son Aaron; her daughter Jocelyn and her husband Jason; and Dawn's longtime companion, Dean.

She was adored by her nine grandchildren, Mikayla, Marissa, Joshua, Joseph, Shaelin, Sophia, Grace, Bodhi, and George and her great-grandchildren Sophia and Gracie.

She will be dearly missed by all of her nieces, nephews, many friends and coworkers.

Dawn loved working at Monson Developmental Center for over 30 years and the last few years at O'Connell Healthcare taking care of her "Ladies."



Dawn loved gardening, the outdoors, reading, trips to the ocean and her rock bed as well as spending time with her family where her laugh and smile lit up the room. We will miss her!

Memorial services will be 11 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 21, at New Birth Christian Church in Thorndike.

In memory of Dawn, memorial contributions can also be made to the church.

Robin Lee Fell, 60

PALMER — Robin Lee Fell, 60, of Three Rivers, passed away Nov. 5, 2021.

She was born on Aug. 19, 1961, in Palmer to the late Thomas and Patricia (Sweet) McKee. After graduating from Palmer High School, she became employed at the Monson Developmental Center for many years.

In her leisure, Robin enjoyed painting ceramics, statues and ornaments that she shared with her family and she was an avid collector of moose items.

Most of all, she enjoyed spending time with her family whom she loved very much.

Robin was preceded in death by her parents. She will be forever missed by her daughter, Heather Fell and partner Adam Duval; sons Matthew Fell and Barry Goodreau Jr.; grandchildren Haley and Jonathan; a brother, Thomas McKee; and her life partner, Barry Goodreau.



A period of visitation will be held 10 a.m. to noon Friday Nov. 19, at the Beers and Story Palmer Funeral Home. Burial will immediately follow at Four Corners Cemetery in Palmer.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Robin's name can be made to American Heart Association. Visit beersandstory.com for more information.

O B I T U A R I E S

Jane E. Harrington, 91

Jane Elizabeth (Wood) Harrington, 91, of South Hadley, died at home on Friday, Nov. 5, 2021, in the loving care of her family.

Born in Northampton on July 7, 1930, Jane Harrington was the daughter of the late Milton J. and Anna (Gustafson) Wood and grew up in Palmer. Jane graduated valedictorian from Palmer High School in 1948 and received her B.S. from Simmons College in 1952. She married her high school sweetheart, the late Robert D. Harrington, in 1952.

Jane is survived by four children, Patricia A. Harrington-Wydell and her husband Craig Wydell of Mundelein, Ill.; Susan J. Ruge and her husband Brad Warble of Hinsdale, Ill.; Thomas R. Harrington and his wife Katherine Harrington of Coopersburg, Pa.; and Mary E. Harrington and her husband Casey Ravenhurst of Hatfield. She is deeply missed by her nine grandchildren: Mary McCoy, Nicholas Ruge, and Shannon Janico; Jo-

hanna, Gretchen, and Daniel Ravenhurst; David Harrington and Sarah Sutak; and Adriana Wydell. She is also survived by five great-grandchildren. Her sister, Carol Ann (Caz) Wood, pre-deceased her in 2013.

Jane and Bob moved several times due to Bob's career with Bethlehem Steel Corp. Their four children were born while they lived in Hamburg, N.Y. In 1965 they moved to Valparaiso, Ind. In 1976, Bob's work sent them to Bethlehem, Pa., and then to Wyomissing, Pa., where they lived for 26 years. For the last 13 years, Jane has lived at Loomis Village in South Hadley.

Jane raised her four children with patience and skill, despite the chaos they often created around her. As her children grew, she found many ways to serve her community. She was a dedicated member of the League of Women Voters and was involved



in many civic and environmental causes. She started a Literacy Council and Food Bank in Allentown, PA. After earning a Masters of Education in Community Counseling from Lehigh University, she led an AIDS support group and then served as the Executive Director of Women's Counseling Services in Reading, PA. Once she retired, she ran support and grief groups. At Loomis Village, Jane was involved in many activities, including the Welcoming Committee and a writers' group. She was a faithful member of the Roman Catholic Church.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held Nov. 15 at St. Theresa of Lisieux Catholic Church in South Hadley followed by burial at St. Thomas Cemetery in Palmer. In lieu of flowers, contributions in Jane's memory may be made to a charity of your choice.

Douglas J. Lunden, 58

Douglas J. Lunden, 58, passed away Thursday, Nov. 4, 2021. He was born Jan. 6, 1963, in Springfield to David Lunden and Carol (Stewart) Lunden. Doug spent most of his life in Palmer where he graduated High School in 1981. While in High School Doug enjoyed playing both basketball and football. Doug was a machinist working many years for C&C Specialties in Monson and most recently for Halpern Titanium in Three Rivers. He was a big fan of the New England Patriots and each

Sunday; you would find him watching the game and yelling at the television screen.

Doug cherished his grandchildren and enjoyed playing games with them and doing pretty much anything they wanted him to do. Doug is survived by his loving wife Cindy (Reynolds) Lunden of 20 years; his brothers David and Richard Lunden; his stepdaughters Valerie (Opielowski) Maldonado,



Catherine (Opielowski) Lawless; and his four grandchildren, Taylor and Evan Maldonado, and Chloe, and Macayla Lawless.

New England Funeral & Cremation Center, LLC, 25 Mill Street, Springfield, has been entrusted with the arrangements. Visit Doug's memorial page at necf.net, where expressions of sympathy may be shared.

Janice E. (Gould) Singleton, 76

PALMER/WARE — Janice E. (Gould) Singleton, 76, passed away Nov. 7, 2021.

Born in Palmer on May 3, 1945, she was the daughter of Robert E. and Bernice (Felton) Gould. Janice grew up and lived most of her life in Palmer before moving to Ware 20 years ago. In 1992, she graduated top of her class from HCC with her degree in nursing. She then went on and worked at Baystate Medical Center in the NICU/CCN for 18 years until her retirement.

Janice surrounded herself with beauty, from her green thumb and flower gardens to rug hooking, cross stitching, and needle punch. She enjoyed sewing and antiques along with time spent on the beach in Maine looking for sea glass. Beyond

the love of her family and friends, Janice's heart was filled with her four-legged companion, her toy poodle, Liam. Janice's memory will forever be cherished by her husband of 59 years, Donald G., along with their children, Belinda

O'Connor and husband Patrick of Three Rivers, Daniel Singleton and wife Allyson of Enfield, and Marcia Martel of Belcher-town, along with daughter-in-law, Dr. Rupal Panchal of Southington, Conn.

In 2017, Janice was predeceased by her youngest son, Matthew. She will also be dearly missed by her three grandchildren, Ryan and Heather



O'Connor, and Nicholas Martel as well as sister-in-law, Vicki Singleton and many nieces and nephews in Illinois.

A memorial service and burial will be planned at a later date. Beers & Story Palmer Funeral Home has been entrusted with the arrangements. In lieu of flowers, please consider donations to either the National Kidney Foundation, 30 E. 33rd St. NY, NY 10016 [kidney.org](https://www.kidney.org) or the American Heart Association, PO Box 840692, Dallas, TX 75284-0692 www.heart.org. Visit beersandstory.com.

journalregister.turley.com

LUDLOW MEMORIAL COMPANY INC.

Celebrating over 60 Years in Business ~ The Trusz Family

❖ Benches ❖ Statues ❖ Monuments ❖ Custom Design Work
❖ Plot Maintenance ❖ Bronze Plaques ❖ Cleaning ❖ Markers ❖ Vases
❖ On-Site Lettering ❖ Restorations ❖ Cemetery Signage ❖ Granite Signs
201 East St., Ludlow, MA 01056 ❖ www.ludlowmemorialcompany.com
413-589-7564 Office ❖ 413-589-7588 Fax ❖ 413-531-5360

The Library Loft

Schoolhouse Commons Historical Center • 1085 Park Street, Palmer

*We are celebrating our
20th year at the Schoolhouse Commons.*

Thanks to our wonderful "friends," volunteers and patrons.

HOURS:

Tues. 10am - 4pm • Wed. 10am - 4pm
Thurs. 10am - 4pm • Fri. 10am-4pm • Sat. 10am-2pm

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE

Book donations will be accepted at the Palmer Public Library or the Library Loft during open hours. Please, no magazines or Reader's Digest Condensed Books. We accept books only in good, clean condition.

For more information call 283-3330 ext. 100



Proceeds To Benefit the Palmer Public Library

Crafters, artisans and vendors needed

BRIMFIELD — St. Christopher's Parish, Brimfield is seeking crafters and artisans for its annual Christmas Craft Fair 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 20, and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 21, at the church, 16 Sturbridge Road in Brimfield.

Tables are \$35 each and covers both days for vendors to display and sell their goods. Additional activities will be happening including raffles and the kitchen will be serving throughout the day. To reserve a spot, call the parish at 413-245-7274 days or email Stchriscwc@gmail.com. Required Covid protocols at the time of the fair will be in place.

Wing gift shop open

THE WING MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AUXILIARY GIFT SHOP misses you! Now open for shopping, sales, fundraisers, raffle baskets, and more! Be sure to check for notices outside the Baystate Wing Hospital Gift Shop or on the local MPACT station. Store hours are weekdays from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. with additional weekend hours during the holidays.

Try not to forget your shopping bags!



Classifieds

12 WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS | SERVING 50 LOCAL COMMUNITIES

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

COMMUNITY MARKETPLACE

Call us at 413.283.8393

FOR SALE

ANTIQUE AND PERIOD CHAIRS
- Restored with new woven seats -
Many styles and weaves available. Call
(413)289-6670

ESTATE SALE

ESTATE SALE Saturday November 20th 8-4. 109 Jim Ash St., Palmer. Furniture, Musical Instruments, Household Goods and Outdoor Furniture. Moving.

FIREWOOD

A1 SEASONED FIREWOOD Returned Phone Calls and Prompt Delivery. Quality Product. Call now **S & K** (413)267-9402

FIREWOOD

Fresh cut & split \$175.00
Seasoned cut & split \$225.00
All hardwood.
Tree length available
*Also have seasoned softwood for outdoor boilers (Cheap). Quality & volumes guaranteed!! New England Forest Products (413)477-0083

!!!!SEASONED!!!! Over a cord guaranteed. Cut, Split, Prompt delivery. Call D & D Cordwood (413)348-4326.

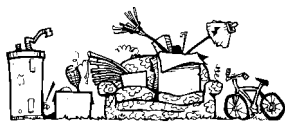
WANTED

WANTED TO BUY

CASH FOR UNWANTED Cars and Trucks. Free towing. Family owned salvage yard since 1966. Call Today (413)626-0166

COMIC BOOKS WANTED!
Comics, Comic Artwork,
Vintage Toys, Pulp, Mags!
50+ years of experience!
Gary Dolgoff 413-529-0326
gary@gdcomics.com

SERVICES



1*****A CALL WE HAUL WE TAKE IT ALL WE LOAD IT ALL

Lowest Rates,
accumulations, junk, estates,
attics, garages, appliances,
basements, demo services.
10% disc. with this ad off services.
Dumpster Rentals available for rent.
All Major CC's
CALL NOW (413)531-1936
acallwehaul@gmail.com



A B Hauling and Removal Service

2***A & B HOUSEHOLD REMOVAL SERVICE*******
Cellars, attics, garages cleaned, yard debris. Barns, sheds, demolished. Swimming pools removed. Cheaper than dumpster fees and we do all the work. Lowest rates. Fully insured. (413)283-6512, cell (413)222-8868.

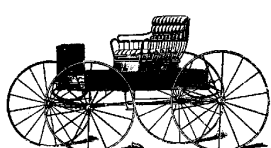
BILODEAU AND SON ROOFING. Established 1976. New re-roofs and repairs. Gutter cleanings and repairs. Licensed/ insured. Call (413)967-6679

CHAIR SEAT WEAVING & refinishing - cane, fiber rush & splint - Classroom instructor, 20+ years experience. Call Walt at (413)289-6670 for estimate.

PAINT AND PAPER Over 25 years experience. References. Lic #086220. Please call Kevin 978-355-6864.

\$12.50 Each Digital Photos
TURLEY PUBLICATIONS, INC.
Purchase a photo that recently ran in one of our publications. Go to newspapers.turley.com/photo-request

SERVICES



WE RENOVATE, SELL & PURCHASE (any condition) horse drawn vehicles such as sleighs, carriages, surreys, wagons, dr's buggies, driveable or lawn ornaments. Some furniture and other restoration services available. Reasonable prices. Quality workmanship. Call (413)213-0373 for estimate and information.
DEMERS & SONS
BELCHERTOWN, MA

APPLIANCES

JOHN SHEA'S APPLIANCE REPAIR Get it done right!!! Same day service. 508-867-7124, 774-200-1391 Check us out on facebook

CHILD SERVICES

***NEW STATE LAW.** Anyone advertising caring of children must list a license number to do so if they offer this service in their own home.

ELECTRICIAN

DEPENDABLE ELECTRICIAN, FRIENDLY service, installs deicing cables. Free estimates. Fully insured. Scott Winters electrician Lic. #13514-B Call (413)244-7096.

HOME IMPROVEMENT

CERAMIC TILE INSTALLATION Kitchen, bath, foyers. References. Lic. #086220. Please call Kevin (978)355-6864.

HOME IMPROVEMENTS. REMODELING Kitchens, baths. Ceramic tile, windows, painting, wallpapering, siding, decks. Insurance work. Fully insured. Free estimates. (413)246-2783 Ron.

NAWROCKI HOME IMPROVEMENT Kitchens, bathrooms, replacement windows & doors, roofing, siding, decks, custom woodworking, drywall. Full insured & registered 413-237-2250 Mark

INSTRUCTION

DON'T BE A STARVING ARTIST - learn how to teach painting with this special method to people of all ages and abilities and have your own business with a stable income. Fill the need for more art in healthcare facilities. Check it out at:
www.artis4every1.com
or call (508)882-3848

LANDSCAPING

A+ ROZELL'S LANDSCAPING & BOBCAT SERVICE
Excavator Services
Overgrown property?
Extreme Brush Cutting!
Shrub, Stump, Tree Removal
Lawn/Arborvitae Installed
Loam, Stone, Mulch, Sand
Storm Clean-up
Maintenance
Small Demolition/ Junk Removal/
Clean-outs
Insured
Josh Rozell 413-636-5957

****ALL SEASON**** Specializing in shrub trimming, pruning, design, deliveries, loader, backhoe, insured. Professional. Please call Bob (413)537-5789 (413)538-7954.

MASONRY

STOP WET BASEMENTS

ABC MASONRY & BASEMENT WATERPROOFING
All brick, block, stone, concrete. Hatchway doors, basement windows, chimneys rebuilt & repaired, foundations repaired, basement waterproofing systems, sump pumps. BBB+ rating. Free estimates. Lic #14790. Call (413)569-1611, (413)374-5377

PLUMBING

LINC'S PLUMBING LIC. #J27222
"New Season"
"New Projects"
Call LINC'S
For Your Connection
(413)668-5299

SNOWPLOWING

RESIDENTIAL Snowplowing/Snowblowing Service. Monson, Palmer, Wilbraham, Hampden. Call or Text now. Limited space available. 413-519-5439

TREE WORK

AAA - TROM'S TREE SERVICE Let me save you money. Tree removal, hazard tree removal, cordwood, stump grinding. We're fully insured and **workmen's comp.** for your protection. Free estimates. Mon-Sun Call Jason (413)283-6374

DL & G TREE SERVICE- Everything from tree pruning, tree removal, stump grinding, storm damage and brush chipping. Honest and Dependable. Fully insured. Now offering a Senior Citizen and Veteran discount. Call today for free estimate (413)478-4212

SERVICES

STUMP GRINDING

DL & G STUMP GRINDING Grinding stumps of all sizes, insured & certified. Senior discounts. Call Dave 413-478-4212

PETS

RETIRED RACING GREYHOUNDS AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION
SPAYED/NEUTERED, WORMED, SHOTS, HEARTWORM TESTED, TEETH CLEANED

MAKE A FAST FRIEND!

GREYHOUND OPTIONS INC.
CALL MARY AT 413-566-3129
OR CLAIRE AT 413-967-9088
OR GO TO
WWW.GREYHOUND OPTIONS.ORG

HORSES

HORSEBACK RIDING LESSONS offered year round at our state of the art facility. Beginner to advanced. Ages 4 years to adult. Boarding, Sales and Leasing also available. Convenient location at Orion Farm in South Hadley (413)532-9753
www.orionfarm.net

HELP WANTED

CURRENTLY SEEKING A TEAM MEMBER FOR WAREHOUSE AND DELIVERY. Prefer forklift and delivery experience. Must have clean driving record and current drivers license. Some lifting required. Full-time, paid health insurance, vacation time and 401k. Submit Resume to: Info@oldehadleigh.com. Old Hadleigh Hearth & Patio, 119 Willimansett St., South Hadley, MA 01075. (413)538-9845

GENERAL LABORER/BINDER for Local Print Shop. Please Call For Details (413)245-3145 or (413)519-3321

HIRING!!! Homemakers, PCAS, CNAs, Home Health Aids. We have offices in Palmer, Feeding Hills & Sturbridge. Please call (413)289-9018. Denise Galarneau EOE

MECHANIC/SM FLEET - FULL TIME Diesel & Gas Experience. Must have CDL License or able to obtain. Send Resumes to: Mechanic c/o Turley Publications 24 Water St, Palmer, MA 01069

SCHOOL BUS DRIVER WANTED Prefer local person. Will train. Lizak Bus' Warren, MA (413)436-5262

Find archives of this local newspaper at
www.newspapers.turley.com

HELP WANTED



Prevention & Medical Care To Help You Live Better, Longer.

NOW HIRING!!! Valley Medical Group, a multi-specialty group serving over 55,000 patients, is seeking a Nurse Manager for our Ambulatory Surgery and Procedure Center located in our Amherst center! There is a \$5,000 sign on bonus for this position! We are also hiring for the following in our Amherst office - Referral Specialist, Family Practice LPN, Specialties LPN (\$1,000 sign on), GI tech (per diem), Medical Receptionist, Medical Assistant 16, 24, 32 and 40 hour schedule options! To view more details about our openings and to apply online, please visit **www.vmgma.com**. Come join our team!!

RATHBONE PRECISION METALS, INC., a manufacturer of metal shapes, is accepting applications for reliable Machine Operators. Candidates must have basic reading, writing, and math skills, excellent communication skills and be able to pay close attention to detail. Visit **www.rathboneprofiles.com** for employment applications. Submit online or mail to **1241 Park Street, Palmer, MA 01069**. Rathbone is proud to be an equal opportunity workplace and is an affirmative action employer.

The town of Palmer seeks to hire a **PART-TIME CONSERVATION AGENT**, 25 hours per week, to assist with conservation and land use work. Provide administrative and technical support to the Town Planner and the Conservation Commission, conservation reservation land management, review applications, and compliance inspections, attend night meetings, prepare agendas, issue decisions, and take meeting minutes. The rate is \$22.50 to \$25.00 per hour. Position is eligible for Benefits. A more detailed job description is available the Town of Palmer website. The Town of Palmer is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Please submit a job application found online at **www.townofpalmer.com** by **November 30, 2021, to: Ryan McNutt, Town Manager 4417 Main Street Palmer, MA 01069 rmcnutt@townofpalmer.com**

TOWN OF WILBRAHAM

P/T ADMINISTRATIVE CLERK - ASSESSORS Looking for a reliable P/T Administrative Clerk for our Assessor's Office. For application and more information please visit **www.wilbraham-ma.gov**. Application deadline 12/3/2021. EOE

REAL ESTATE

COMMERCIAL RENTALS

FOR RENT APPROXIMATELY 800 SQ. FT. WITH EASY ACCESS. Good for storage etc. Also have approximately 1600 Sq. Ft. unit with street level entrance. Call (413)967-7772 for more information. Reasonable rent.

FOR RENT



EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

ALL REAL ESTATE advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination." We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

HILLSIDE VILLAGE APARTMENTS

APPLICATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED FOR ONE, TWO AND THREE BEDROOM APARTMENTS

•Heat and hot water included
•Ample Closets
•Fully Appliance
•Community Room
•Laundry Facilities
•Cats Welcome
•Extra Storage
•24 Hour Maintenance
For Information call
(413)967-7755 EHO

17 Convent Hill,
Ware, MA



STORAGE

SECURE STORAGE Winter Special. Rent a 5x10: 2 months payment up front, 3rd month free. Call Mary (413)531-3722

Post your
job openings
in our
classifieds.
We get results!

REAL ESTATE

FOR RENT



All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status (number of children and or pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development "HUD" toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

Turley Publications, Inc.

www.newspapers.turley.com

AGAWAM ADVERTISER NEWS

BARRE GAZETTE
COUNTRY JOURNAL
CHICOPEE REGISTER
THE JOURNAL REGISTER
THE LUDLOW REGISTER
QUABOAG CURRENT
THE SENTINEL
THE SUN
WILBRAHAM-HAMPDEN TIMES
TOWN REMINDER
WARE RIVER NEWS

turleynews
TurleyPublications

Classified Advertising DEADLINES

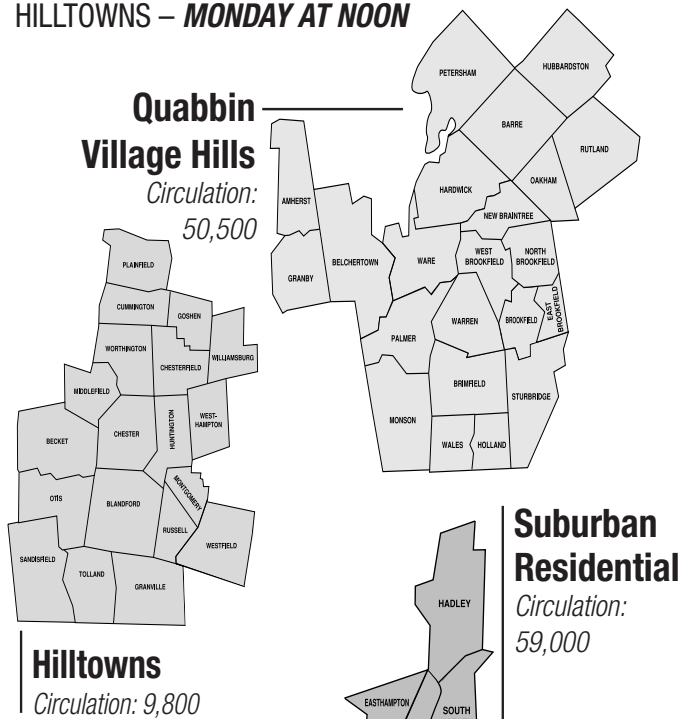
QUABBIN & SUBURBAN
FRIDAY AT NOON
HILLTOWNS
MONDAY AT NOON

FILL OUT AND MAIL THIS MONEY MAKER

MAIL TO: Classifieds, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069
or call: 413-283-8393

DEADLINES: QUABBIN & SUBURBAN - FRIDAY AT NOON
HILLTOWNS - MONDAY AT NOON

CATEGORY:			
1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20
21	Base Price \$26.50	Base Price \$27.00	Base Price \$26.00
22	Base Price \$26.50	Base Price \$27.00	Base Price \$26.00
23	Base Price \$26.50	Base Price \$27.00	Base Price \$26.00
24	Base Price \$26.50	Base Price \$27.00	Base Price \$26.00
25	Base Price \$28.50	Base Price \$29.00	Base Price \$30.00
26	Base Price \$28.50	Base Price \$29.00	Base Price \$30.00
27	Base Price \$28.50	Base Price \$29.00	Base Price \$30.00
28	Base Price \$28.50	Base Price \$29.00	Base Price \$30.00
29	Base Price \$30.50	Base Price \$31.00	Base Price \$32.00
30	Base Price \$30.50	Base Price \$31.00	Base Price \$32.00
31	Base Price \$30.50	Base Price \$31.00	Base Price \$32.00
32	Base Price \$30.50	Base Price \$31.00	Base Price \$32.00
33	Base Price \$32.50	Base Price \$33.00	Base Price \$34.00
34	Base Price \$32.50	Base Price \$33.00	Base Price \$34.00
35	Base Price \$32.50	Base Price \$33.00	Base Price \$34.00
36	Base Price \$32.50	Base Price \$33.00	Base Price \$34.00
37	Base Price \$34.50	Base Price \$35.00	Base Price \$36.00
38	Base Price \$34.50	Base Price \$35.00	Base Price \$36.00
39	Base Price \$34.50	Base Price \$35.00	Base Price \$36.00
40	Base Price \$34.50	Base Price \$35.00	Base Price \$36.00



Buy the Quabbin Village Hills or the Suburban Residential ZONE for \$26.00 for 20 words plus 50¢ for each additional word. Add \$10 for a second Zone or add \$15 to run in ALL THREE ZONES.

Name: _____ Phone: _____
Address: _____
Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Number of Weeks: _____ X per week rate = \$ _____
Credit Card: ☐ MasterCard ☐ VISA ☐ Discover ☐ Cash ☐ Check# _____
Card #: _____ Exp. Date _____ CVV _____
Amount of charge: _____ Date: _____

First ZONE base price _____ Includes additional words
Add a second ZONE **\$10.00**
Add a third ZONE **\$5.00**
Subtotal _____
x Number of Weeks _____
TOTAL Enclosed _____

Run my ad in the following ZONE(s):
☐ Quabbin
☐ Suburban
☐ Hilltowns

OUR CLASSIFIEDS REACH 50 COMMUNITIES EVERY WEEK!

A TURLEY PUBLICATION
www.turley.com

Public notices

LEGAL NOTICE MONSON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Under the requirements of M.G.L. Chapter 13, §40 the Monson Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on **Wednesday, December 1, 2021 at 7:10 P.M.** in the Public Meeting Room, Town Office Building, 110 Main St. Under consideration is an Ecological Restoration Limited Project Notice of Intent for property located at 152 Bethany Road, Monson Assessors Map 111, Parcel 72A. The proposed work is to return the impoundment of the Church Manufacturing Company Dam to a more natural condition similar to that which likely existed prior to the construction of the dam. Wetland resource areas impacted include Bank, Bordering Vegetated Wetlands, Bordering Land Subject to Flooding, Land under Waterbodies and Waterways and Riverfront Area. Property Owner RJA Realty Holding, Inc. filed the application.

Submitted by:
Monson Conservation
Commission
11/18/2021

**Commonwealth of
Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Hampden Probate and
Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758**
Docket No. HD21C0260CA
In the matter of:
Trevor Allen Goode
CITATION ON PETITION
TO CHANGE NAME
A Petition to Change
Name of Minor has been
filed by **Trevor Allen Goode**
of **Palmer, MA** requesting
that the court enter a Decree
changing their name to:
Trevor Allen Alexander
IMPORTANT NOTICE
Any person may appear
for purposes of objecting
to the petition by filing an
appearance at: **Hampden
Probate and Family Court
before 10:00 a.m. on the
return day of 12/02/2021.**

This is NOT a hearing
date, but a deadline by
which you must file a written
appearance if you object to
this proceeding.

WITNESS, Hon.
Barbara M Hyland, First
Justice of this Court.
Date: November 04, 2021
Rosemary A Saccomani
Register of Probate
11/18/2021

LEGAL NOTICE

Pursuant to the provisions of MA Gen. Laws, Chap. 255, Sec. 39A, the following vehicles will be sold at public auction for towing and storage charges due: **CHEVY** VIN:3GNAXKEV9KS51 4772 Tiffany Kennedy 86 Hannah Way Apt. D Rockland, MA. This auction is to take place on

November 19, 2021, 10:00 A.M. at LaBonte's & Son LLC, 241 Wilbraham St., Palmer, MA 01069. 11/4, 11/11, 11/18/2021

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR SPECTRUM CHANNEL LINEUP

Communities Served:
Towns of Brimfield and
Wales, MA.

On January 1, 2022, NBC Sports Network, channels 36, 306, 767 on Spectrum Select, Stream News Sports & More, Spectrum Lifestyle TV and Business Entertainment, Premier, Sports TV, Digital Basic, will cease providing programming on your Spectrum channel lineup. To view additional sports programming, check your Spectrum TV Guide for channel location and programming details.

For a complete channel lineup, visit Spectrum.com/Channels. To view this notice online, visit Spectrum.net/ProgrammingNotices. 11/18/2021

**Commonwealth of
Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Division
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-8600**
Docket No. HD21P1887EA
Estate of:
Robert V Thomas
Date of Death:
March 11, 2021
INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Robert V Thomas, Jr** of Ashland, MA

a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

Robert V Thomas, Jr of Ashland, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve **without** surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner. 11/18/2021

Police/Fire

Police Logs

PALMER POLICE DEPT.

The Palmer Police Department responded to a total of 509 calls and made four arrests or summons for arrests Nov. 9 – Nov. 16. Those arrested will appear at the Palmer District Court and are innocent until proven guilty:

Wednesday, Nov. 10

Kevin R. Allard, 30, of 82 Cubes, Brimfield, was arrested at 9:35 p.m., on charges of a warrant and possession of a Class A drug.

Saturday, Nov. 13

Anne M. Lombardi, 38, of 94 Breckenridge St., Palmer, was arrested at 1:52 a.m., on charges of operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol; a marked lanes violation and negligent operation of a motor vehicle.

MONSON POLICE DEPT.

The Monson Police Department one summons for arrest Nov. 7 – 13.

Fire Logs

PALMER

The Palmer Fire Department responded to six calls Nov. 14-15:

On Sunday, Nov. 14, at 4:32 a.m., the carbon monoxide detector activation on Knox Street. The department returned to service at 4:55 a.m.

On Sunday, Nov. 14, at 2:12 p.m., the department responded to an unauthorized burning on Boston Road. The department returned to service at 2:28 p.m.

On Sunday, Nov. 14, at 8:22 p.m., the department responded to a medical assistance call on Central Street. The department returned to service at 8:43 p.m.

On Monday, Nov. 15, at 10 a.m., the department responded to a police assistance call on South Main Street in Bondsville. The department returned to service at 3:10 p.m.

On Monday, Nov. 15, at 5:06 p.m., the department responded to a furnace malfunction on Woodland Heights. The department returned to service at 5:25 p.m.

On Monday, Nov. 15, at 7:34 p.m., the department to a motor vehicle accident on the Mass Pike. The department returned to service at 8:40 p.m.

BONDSVILLE

The Bondsville Fire Department responded to two calls Nov. 9 - 15:

On Monday, Nov. 15, at 10:30 p.m., the department responded to a propane leak on Prospect Street. The department returned to service at 9:15 p.m.

On Monday, Nov. 15, at 1:36 p.m., the department responded to a medical assistance call on Summit Drive. The department returned to service at 2:04 p.m.

THREE RIVERS

The Three Rivers Fire Department responded to three calls Nov. 8 – 15:

On Monday, Nov. 8, at 5:05 p.m., the department responded to an EMS incident on Anderson Street. The department returned to service at 5:26 p.m.

On Tuesday, Nov. 9, at 7:55 p.m., the department responded to an EMS incident on Bourne Street. The department returned to service at 8:22 p.m.

On Wednesday, Nov. 10, at 5:21 p.m., the department responded to an EMS incident on

Ford Street. The department returned to service at 5:50 p.m.

On Wednesday, Nov. 10, at 9:07 p.m., the department responded to a propane leak on Main Street. The department returned to service at 9:33 p.m.

On Wednesday, Nov. 10, at 9:10 p.m., the department responded to a kitchen fire on Off Lariviere Street. The fire was distinguished by a resident and the department returned to service at 9:15 p.m.

On Thursday, Nov. 11, at 4:13 p.m., the department responded to an unauthorized fire on Springfield Street. The department returned to service at 4:20 p.m.

On Thursday, Nov. 11, at 4:30 p.m., the department responded to an unauthorized fire on Andersson Street. The department returned to service at 4:36 p.m.

On Sunday, Nov. 14, at 1:17 p.m., the department responded to an EMS incident on Burlington Road. The department returned to service at 1:42 p.m.

On Sunday, Nov. 14, at 4:18 p.m., the department responded to an EMS incident on Main Street. The department returned to service at 5:05 p.m.

On Monday, Nov. 15, at 10:00 a.m., the department responded to a Palmer Police De-

partment assistance call. The department returned to service at 2:25 p.m.

MONSON

The Monson Fire Department responded to five fire calls and 22 EMS calls Nov. 8 - 14:

On Monday, Nov. 8, at 12:45 p.m., the department responded to a smoke detector activation on Lakeside Drive. The department returned to service at 1:07 p.m.

On Tuesday, Nov. 9, at 10:24 a.m., the department responded to a fire alarm activation on Main Street. The department returned to service at 10:51 a.m.

On Sunday, Nov. 14, at 6:04 p.m., the department responded to a tree on wires call on Butler Road. The department returned to service at 8:28 p.m.

On Saturday, Nov. 14, at 6:04 p.m., the department responded to a wire down call on King Lane. The department returned to service at 7:28 p.m.

On Sunday, Nov. 14, at 2:08 p.m., the department responded to a report of smoke in the area on Boston Road West. The department returned to service at 2:21 p.m.

Country Bank opens re-imagined banking center in Ware Wal-Mart

WARE – Country Bank, a full-service financial institution serving central and western Massachusetts, is pleased to announce the grand opening of its new Digital Banking Center. Banking transactions have changed drastically over the past 20 months, with more people turning to digital delivery channels. The ability to offer new solutions is key to remaining at the forefront of ever-changing technologies to be there for customers whenever and wherever they may be.

The new Digital Banking Center is different from a traditional banking branch; it offers innovative banking technologies and the same great customer service that customers have come to appreciate. In addition, Country Bank understands the convenience of having an in-store location to allow customers to complete their banking needs in one trip. Country Bank first opened a traditional branch in this location in 1999.

The Digital Banking Center provides customers a tremendous evolution in how they bank. Interactive teller machines offer face-to-face communications with a live specialist to assist customers with many of their banking needs or answer any questions they might have. This location offers extended hours with live assistance available Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturday, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. When live help is not available, the interactive ATM also serves as a traditional ATM where you can continue to perform typical transactions.

“We continually look for ways to offer convenience and excellence in service to our customers. As this new technology becomes available throughout our locations, it was important to introduce it to our hometown customers in Ware as our first Digital Banking Center. Many retailers offer self-service

checkout; ITMs provide a similar concept allowing you to perform your transactions or ask for help from a live specialist if needed,” stated Russ Fontaine, senior vice president of customer experience and retail banking at Country Bank. “Our great level of service is still here, just via a video screen, and your favorite Country Bankers are also still here to assist you with a smile.”

A grand opening ceremony is scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 20, from 10 a.m. to noon. A ribbon-cutting ceremony is scheduled for 10:15 a.m. inside the Digital Banking Center along with demonstrations on how the ITMs work.

In addition, outside of Wal-Mart under the Country Bank tent, there will be a prize wheel, grand

opening events, Country Bank will be collecting donations for the Jubilee Cupboard in Ware. Everyone is welcome to drop off non-perishable items to help support the food pantry. Country Bank will also be making a \$1,000 donation to the Jubilee Cupboard to help support its additional needs during the holidays.

To learn more about interactive ITMs, please visit www.countrybank.com/itms.

Country Bank is a full-service mutual community bank serving central and western Massachusetts with 14 offices in Ware, Palmer, West Brookfield, Brimfield, Belchertown, Wilbraham, Ludlow, Leicester, Paxton, Charlton, and Worcester.

Gobi has office hours across district through Nov.

State Senator Anne M. Gobi (D-Spencer) invites community members to meet with her Communications and Intergovernmental Affairs Director, Lucas McDiarmid, at locations across the Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire and Middlesex District through November.

Office hours will last for a period of one hour at each location and are scheduled by region. All residents are invited to attend at any location. If you have questions or wish to make a special appointment with the Senator or her staff, outside of scheduled hours, please call 413-324-3082. You may also email Lucas.McDiarmid@MASenate.gov.

Thursday, Nov. 18
Noon to 1 p.m. at
Wales Senior Center
Monday, Nov. 22
10 a.m. to 11 a.m. at
Monson Town Hall; 1 to 2
p.m. at Holland Town Hall
Tuesday, Nov. 23
10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

at Warren Senior Center;
11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
at Brimfield Senior Center
Wednesday, Nov. 24
10 a.m. to 11 a.m.
at Ware Senior Center;
11:30 a.m. to 12:30 a.m.
at Palmer Public Library

PUBLIC NOTICES ARE NOW ONLINE

- 1 Email all notices to notices@turley.com
- 2 Access archives and digital tear sheets by newspaper title.
- 3 Find a quick link to the state of Massachusetts' public notice web site to search all notices in Massachusetts newspapers.

Public notice deadlines are Mondays at noon,
Fridays noon for Monday holidays.

visit www.publicnotices.turley.com

Be Our Next Cover Couple

We love to showcase our recent wedding couples. Now we are offering the opportunity for one couple to be a featured on the cover of an upcoming issue.

If your photo is chosen you will also receive an 8x10 glossy cover suitable for framing.

Please submit your high-resolution photograph, along with the bride and groom's name, hometown for each, wedding date and wedding location, to jamie@turley.com

Our art department will choose a new couple for each edition's cover. All other photos will be published in the Wedding Announcement section.

Send wedding announcements to jamie@turley.com

Kensie Michele Distler

February 15, 2021

Parents: Danny & Lisa Distler, Coventry, RI
Grandparents: Chris & Michele Mues, Warren
Carole Distler and the late Bruce Distler, Rocky Point, LI, NY

Turley Publications
would like to help you show off
the newest member
of your family this Christmas,
FOR FREE!

Mail to: Turley Publications,
24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069,
Attn: Jamie Joslyn

Include a self addressed/stamped envelope if you would like the picture returned or email photo to: jamie@turley.com with subject line: BABY'S FIRST. This offer is available to all babies born in 2021. Pictures will be published the week of December 20-24, 2021.

Baby's Name:	_____
Birthdate:	_____
Parents' Names:	_____
Parents' Town of Residence:	_____
Grandparents' Names & Town of Residence:	_____
Telephone #:	_____

Please check the newspaper
you would like your announcement to appear.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agawam Advertiser | <input type="checkbox"/> Quaboag Current |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Barre Gazette | <input type="checkbox"/> The Register |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chicopee Register | <input type="checkbox"/> Sentinel |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Country Journal | <input type="checkbox"/> Town Reminder |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The Holyoke Sun | <input type="checkbox"/> Ware River News |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Journal Register | <input type="checkbox"/> The Wilbraham-Hampden Times |

Deadline for photos and forms is
Friday, December 3, 2021

Turley
Publications, Inc.
www.turley.com



Members of Girl Scouts march in Palmer's Veterans Day parade.



The Palmer High Marching Band gets the crowd fired up.



After marching in the parade, the Palmer High Marching Band later performed during the ceremony.



Patriotic residents turned out to honor local veterans.



Veteran and Palmer Town Manager Ryan McNutt.



Turley Publications staff photo by Jackie Provost
Girl Scouts of the Swift River Service Unit line up before the parade.



Peter Izyk, committee member for both the Scouts BSA girl Troop 5164 and Cub Scout Pack 164, marches with Scouts.



Members of Troop 164 march in Palmer's Veterans Day parade.



The ceremony concluded with the playing of "Taps."



Palmer Veterans Agent Troy Brin opens the ceremony.



Veterans participating in the ceremony raise the colors.

VETERANS | from page 1

ing out – our high school band, our Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, as well as our community leaders. And it's just great to see such a response. We've got a great group to honor those who have done everything in their power to not only sacrifice for themselves but for our community. Thank you for coming out on this Veterans Day."

When it was his turn to address the crowd, State Rep. Todd Smaller acknowledged the charged political era we're in and asked everyone present to respect those with opposing views. He also stressed the importance of reaching out to veterans, especially those who might feel isolated during the pandemic and especially veterans still decompressing after deployments to Afghanistan during America's longest war – the campaign there and in Iraq following the terrorist attacks on the U.S. on Sept. 11, 2001.

"It is nice that we can return to these ceremonies in our community after the challenges that we've had over the period of the last few years," Smola said.

"I want to give the young folks a round of applause for being here to our veterans. We have had a difficult couple of years since the start of this pandemic. It's been hard on many of our older veterans, and I want to send a special thank you out to those veterans that volunteered their time over the course of this pandemic to be able to organize with us to help deliver food, supplies, and medicine to their comrades in arm that were isolated and they couldn't get out of their homes."

He thanked those who "stepped up to the plate to help those the were in need, sending things to them, as well as picking up the telephone and spending a few minutes every single week to speak with them so that they didn't feel completely isolated."

Smola said war should always be a last resort.

"Our fervent prayer should always be as a society that humanity will use sound judgment and good wisdom to avoid conflict that risks human life at all costs because every life is precious. And in those moments where conflict is unavoidable, it is our responsibility as a society to guarantee that we provide the resources, the supplies and the support that our veterans so desperately count upon to do their job in order to preserve our rights and our freedoms," Smola said.

He invoked Americans' Constitutional right to free speech but also urged everyone to use that freedom responsibly and with consideration.

"Society moves in a very different pace nowadays, and we must always remember that the rights, the freedoms, the protections, everything that we are as Americans comes because men and women are willing to do that which we as individuals are not. And when there is an attack through popular opinion on the things that we hold near and dear to our hearts, we should stand up to defend those things. Our Constitution, our national anthem, our flag. These are not just words on paper and objects in our society. "These are things that have real meaning that stand for something within our communities, and it's our responsibility to make sure that they are preserved. That doesn't mean that there isn't room for debate and discussion about these things and the history of them and their evolution over time. But let's use those rights that we have to be productive and constructive when we talk about those things, let us avoid attack on our neighbors when they have ideas that are different from our own. And let's try and be part of the solution to the problems in our society. We seem to be a very quick, snap judgment society in recent years, and that benefits no one because we're letting down our veterans and we're letting down ourselves."

U.S. Army veteran and Palmer Town Manager Ryan McNutt reminded everyone that many of those who served can face physical and emotional challenges and the town is here for them.

"This marks for me what would have been 20 years since I joined the National Guard. I joined in March of 2000 and 17 years ago, the unit that I joined got deployed to Iraq. Now, thankfully, out of my unit of roughly 180 folks, everybody was able to come home safely with all of their fingers and all of their toes and whatever marbles they left with. But since we've come home 17 years ago, about a dozen of those folks have passed away under various circumstances, and not all of that was natural causes," McNutt said.

"So we know when our veterans come home that they still face challenges, challenges personal from what they saw and experienced and challenges from what perhaps they experience once they get home. So I just want to say that this town has shown its commitment and will strengthen its commitment to our veterans. If anybody here that lives in Palmer or even now Monson, if you're a veteran and you're struggling or if you have any issues that you want to get off your chest, talk about with somebody or look for resources. Please come to Town Hall and see me or our veterans agent Troy Brin. We are a resource. We're both veterans. We have the potential to understand. We want to understand. So I want to thank everybody that served. And again, please, if you're struggling, reach out to us."

The Palmer High School Band, which marched and played in the parade, performed "God Bless America" and "Taps" during the ceremony. Great job, Ben. We'll now render honors to the service members and veterans who have passed on as the veterans of AMVETS in the American Legion will perform a moment of silence, followed by the rendering of taps by the Palmer High School Band. The Rev. Pastor Bruce Prestwood-Taylor of Second Congregational Church in Palmer delivered the benediction.



YOUR LOCAL
TRUSTED
RELIABLE
DEPENDABLE

HOME PROs

1 PLUMBING • HEATING

LINC'S
Plumbing & Heating
"Call LINC'S For Your Connection"
413-668-5299
Lic# J27222

2 LOGGING

Park Saw Shop
LOGGING • ARBORIST • SAFETY
Shipping Can Be Arranged • Rentals Available
413-544-9027 • 1-800-232-6132
1292 Park Street, Palmer, MA 01069
Mon.-Fri. 6:30am-4pm • Sat. 7am-Noon
STIHL **Husqvarna**

3 ROOFING

Roberts Roofs
SPECIALIZING IN
Slate • Copper • Architectural Shingles
Gutters • Historical Restoration
Flat Roofs • SNOW REMOVAL
A Trusted Name Since 1982
413-283-4395 • Cell 413-237-9434
www.RobertsRoofsInc.com

4 INSURANCE

Moulton Insurance Agency
BUSINESS • AUTO • HOME • LIFE
Very Competitive Rates • Experienced Professional Staff
99% Customer Satisfaction Rate • On-site Registry Processing
Safety Insurance
143 West Street 45 N. Main Street
413-967-3327 413-323-7229

5 ELECTRICIAN

Make the Right Connection!
David L. Beaudoin
Licensed Electrician
Residential, Commercial, Industrial
(413) 267-0015
FULLY INSURED
#34930-E • R-I-29085-10-07613

6 SEAMLESS GUTTERS

Verdon's
Seamless Aluminum Gutters
Over 30 Years Experience
Family Owned & Operated
65 Main Street, Wilbraham • (413) 596-9611
Mon.-Fri. 7am to 5pm - Please No Sundays - Lic.#105559
www.verdongutters.com • verdongutters@charter.net
Fully Insured & Free Estimates
CUSTOM MADE & INSTALLED CONTINUOUS SEAMLESS ALUMINUM GUTTERS & DOWNSPOUTS